LAST MONTH'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 446,000

No 63,582

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20 1989

30p

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

£150m payout to victims of Clowes affair

Ridley rebuffs tough criticism of DTI

By Sheila Gunn and Derek Harris

The Government is to pay £150 million compensation to 18,500 small investors who lost their savings in the Barlow Clowes collapse.

The announcement came as Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, rejected the Ombudsman's findings of five acts of maladministration within the department in regulating the Cheshire-based financial group.

Mr Ridley accepted that the department was not beyond criticism, but said no official would face disciplinary action.

Many of the victims of the collapse were elderly or redundant workers who sunk their entire savings into the group. Those with up to £50,000 invested will recover 90 per cent of their money, together with lost interest. Dependants and executors of investors who have died will also be eligible for compensation, which will be paid in February.

The Government is confident of recouping as much as £100 million by tracing negligent brokers and advisers and taking over claims for liquidation.

Investors and MPs were jubilant last night after an 18-month campaign for compensation; but there was criticism of the long delayin helping those caught up in the £190 million collapse.

Parliament 11
Leading article 15
Investors reaction 23
Report 26

Mr Gordon Brown, Labour's trade and industry spokesman, said taxpayers' money was being used for compensation because of the "fecklessness, gullibility and incompetence of the Government".

The Department of Trade and Industry's handling of the licensing of the group cast a shadow over three ministers: Lord Young of Graffham, who was Secretary of State at the time and is now deputy chairman of the Conservative Party; Mr Francis Maude, the former Minister for Consumer Affairs who is now at the Foreign Office; and the late Sir Alec Fletcher, who was a junior minister at the Department of Trade and Industry.

The decision to announce compensation at the same time as publication of Sir Anthony Barrowclough's 170-page report averted further embarrassment for the Government over the affair.

Sir Anthony's most strident criticism was of the Department of Trade and Industry's failure to heed the warnings in 1987 from the Stock Exchange and elsewhere.

"A regulatory agency – which is what the department was at the time in relation to the protection of investors – ought, by definition, to adopt a rigorous and inquiring approach as regards material coming into its possession concerning an undertaking about which suspicions have been aroused, and also as regards representations made to it on the part of the undertaking in question.

"And it was, in my view, the lack of a sufficiently rigorous and inquiring approach which led not only to the failure to appreciate that there was a Jersey partnership, but also to some other faults I have identified," Sir Anthony said.

Mr Ridley told MPs that the Financial Services Act had considerably tightened the licensing system.

"In disagreeing with the findings in the Ombudsman's report, the Government is not asserting that the conduct of the department was beyond criticism, given the benefit of hindsight. But, in the Government's view, the department's handling of the case was within the acceptable range of standards reasonably to be expected of a regulator."

The Government repeatedly refused to compensate the investors last year because, it argued, the department was not legally liable. Lord Young angered Tory MPs who appealed for help on behalf of constituents, by insisting that Sir Godfray Le Quesne's internal inquiry had exonerated the department; although it is understood that his compensation proposals were rejected by the Treasury.

At a press conference after making his Commons statement, Mr Ridley said: "We are totally agreed that the sort of minor criticisms which we have had with the advantage of hindsight are what is justified – and no more, and no less."

He added: "I want to assure the world that we have every confidence in our Civil Servants and feel it is part of our duty to defend them against unfair accusations."

Mr John Dyer, speaking for the investors, welcomed the Government's announcement yesterday as "beyond all our expectations".



Prague cries out for its hero



Thousands of students outside the National Assembly in Prague yesterday greeting Mr Vaclav Havel, the Civil Forum leader whom they demanded should be elected president of Czechoslovakia by the Communist majority of deputies. Mr Marian Calfa, the Communist Prime Minister, yesterday came out in favour of Mr Havel. The main questions now hanging over the presidency are the degree of support for the candidacy of the former leader, Mr Alexander Dubcek, in his native Slovakia, and the attitude of the Communist deputies towards the election process.

Envoys confirm Romania protest killings

By Andrew McEwen, Martin Fletcher in Washington and Ernest Beck, Nagylak

Western diplomats in Bucharest confirmed yesterday that Romanian security forces used tanks to machine-gun a crowd demonstrating front of municipal buildings at Timisoara.

And a Romanian doctor was last night quoted by the Austrian news agency: "The first three rows of protesters collapsed dead or injured. People stopped private cars and put the dead and injured in their boots. Blood and torn clothing lay everywhere."

The independent confirmation ended doubts caused by a Romanian news blackout and cleared the way for a fierce Western reaction.

The 12 European Community countries condemned Bucharest "in the strongest terms" and implied that trade sanctions were under consideration.

A young Hungarian said on Budapest radio: "Hundreds are lying in the hospitals with terrible injuries, bullet wounds, contusions, others crushed by tanks."

Mr Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said that "dozens and perhaps hundreds" of demonstrators had been killed. He said the US "condemns the brutal use of police force by the Romanian Government against protestors in Timisoara."

The United States was consulting its European allies about a co-ordinated response and called for an end to violence and for the opening of borders.

In London the Foreign Office said it had learned of an unusually heavy security presence in the capital and the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug also reported that soldiers armed with automatic rifles were patrolling the streets.

A Tanjug correspondent in Bucharest said police and civil guard units were also out in force on the streets of Timisoara and Arad. Security forces were said to be conducting house-to-house searches in Timisoara, where many buildings were burned out or damaged by bullets.

Travellers crossing into Hungary reported that anti-government protests had spread to Cluj and Oredea.

Kohl tells East of unity goal

From Anne McElvoy in Dresden and Peter Guilford

The West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, paid his first official visit to East Germany yesterday and told thousands of people demonstrating in favour of German reunification: "My goal, when the historical hour allows it, is the unity of the nation."

In Brussels, however, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, laid down tough conditions which would in effect make German union unforeseeable other than in the very long term.

Kremlin fears 9

He warned the political committee of the European Parliament in Brussels that Germany's right to self-determination "can only be

Continued on page 22, col 2

Cabinet backing for passport plan

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Government was on course last night for one if its biggest clashes with its backbenchers after the Cabinet decided to support proposals to grant full British passports to 50,000 key residents of Hong Kong and their families.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary, will announce today that the Government is to legislate to give full citizenship to public servants and businessmen as an "insurance policy" to encourage them to stay in the colony. The total number of those allowed the right to live in Britain is likely to be about 220,000.

However, Mr David Waddington, Home Secretary, who will have the responsibility of steering the necessary Bill through the Commons, was said by colleagues to be deeply unhappy about a policy against which he fought and lost in Cabinet committee.

Conservative MPs were predicting a big revolt when the Bill is debated. Mr Waddington, in line with the tenets of collective Cabinet responsibility, will bend all his efforts to getting the legislation through. However, he is known to have told colleagues of his fears that the policy of granting settlement rights to such a big number of residents risked reopening the whole immigration controversy for the Conservative Party.

In a Cabinet committee, he argued that a much smaller number of residents than has been agreed should not be granted passports but assured that they would be given clearance to enter Britain. However, Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Hurd agreed that such an assurance would not be sufficient to meet Britain's obligation to the colony.

Continued on page 22, col 7

Famous 'names' are suing Lloyd's agency

By Gillian Bowditch

The tennis player Virginia Wade, the golfer Tony Jacklin and the publisher Lord Weidenfeld are among 814 Lloyd's of London members who are suing their Lloyd's members' agents and the underwriting agency RHM Outhwaite in an unprecedented case that some believe could seriously damage Lloyd's reputation.

The Lloyd's names bringing the litigation are among 1,600 investors in Outhwaite syndicate 317/661 in 1982 who are estimated to have lost about £300 million. One family alone has so far paid out £900,000 in losses and about 50 of the names are facing bankruptcy.

Outhwaite and 81 members' agents are being sued for negligence and the names have established a fighting fund of £1 million to pay for the legal action, which could drag on for years.

Outhwaite says the claims are "very defendable".

Details, page 23

Prince attacks modern church English as banal

By David Tytler, Education Editor

English has become "so impoverished, so sloppy and so limited that we have arrived at a dismal wasteland of banality, cliché and casual obscenity," the Prince of Wales said yesterday.

The man who will become head of the Church of England reserved his harshest criticism for its modern translators and their *Alternative Service Book* which since 1980 has replaced the 400-year-old *Thomas Cranmer Book of Common Prayer* in many churches.

The Prince said: "Compare the courtesy of Cranmer's language with the crassness of the *Alternative Service Book* which spends much time telling the Deity what he must already know." Presenting the Thomas Cranmer Schools Prize to secondary school pupils who could speak passages of the prayer book from heart, he said that Cranmer's great work was being "battered and deformed in the unlikely cause of making it easier to understand".

He questioned whether fewer people were able to read than in previous years, and added: "Supposing it were true, whoever decided that for people who are not very good at reading, the best things to read are those written by people who are not very good at writing?"

The Prince said: "We seem to have forgotten that for solemn occasions we need exceptional and solemn language: something which transcends our every-day speech ... If we encourage the use of mean, trite, ordinary language, we encourage a mean, trite and ordinary view of the world."

Attacking the modern translators, the Prince said: "If English is spoken in Heaven, God undoubtedly employs Cranmer as his speech writer. The angels of the lesser ministries probably use the language of the *New English Bible* and the *Alternative Service Book* for internal memos."

Some changes were made for good reason, but he added: "A good many more were made just to lower the tone, in the belief that the rest of us would not get the point if the word of God was a bit over our heads. But the word of God is supposed to be a bit over our heads.

"Where is the comfort in a phrase too banal to be remembered? How can we be lifted up by a sentence which itself needs lifting on a stretcher?"

Widening his attack to the general use of English, the Prince said: "We have seen the abandonment of learning the rules of grammar and the parts of speech as boring and irrelevant. Learning poetry by heart has been abandoned, together with the idea of English as something really to be learned, by effort and application."

He said he had no wish to be unfair to teachers: "I do not envy the task that teachers have, particularly in

Continued on page 22, col 2

Tory MP found dead in his car

Mr John Heddle, aged 48, the Conservative MP for Mid Staffordshire, was found dead in his Jaguar at an isolated spot at Chartham, near Canterbury, Kent, early yesterday, having apparently committed suicide.

Close friends of the MP, an extrovert character well liked at Westminster, claimed that he had serious financial problems, stemming largely from the property market.

His death lands the Government with the unwelcome prospect of a by-election in the early spring.

Mr Heddle, a chartered surveyor who had been married twice, had four children

Page 3

Legal attack

The Lord Chief Justice and the Master of the Rolls attacked Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, for what they see as his omission of the "interests of justice" criterion from the Bill reforming the legal profession

Page 2

INSIDE

Long arm of the law . . .

- The Kenyan request for British police help in solving the murder of Julie Ward will be answered by a special force whose patch is the whole world: page 12
- There was one winner of yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize (see page 3). Today's chance to win £2,000 is on page 27

INDEX

Home News 2,3,5,7
Overseas 8-10
Business 23-28
Sport 33-38
Archaeology 19
Arts 16
Births, marriages, deaths 19
City Diary 25
Court 18
Crosswords 18,20
Diary 14
Entertainments 20
Features 12-14
Information 20
Law Report 32
Leading articles 15
Letters 15
Media 30-31
Obituary 16
On This Day 19
Parliament 11
Saleroom 3
Science Report 18
Snow reports 36
TV & Radio 21
Weather 22

☆☆☆☆☆☆

PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER SLIDES

Not expensive, yet the best 35mm slides and OHP film that money can buy.

Perfect layouts with unlimited colours.

Anything – from any size – can be scanned into your slide.

Fax your requirements and we will return paper proofs in a couple of hours.

Your slides will be delivered overnight, anywhere in the country, with audience packs if required.

BUSINESS PRESENTATIONS

W BUSINESS PRESENTATIONS · 85-87 BAYHAM STREET LONDON NW1 0AG · Tel 01 482 2028 Fax 01 267 7452
Our normal office hours are from 8am to 8pm

Judges attack lack of 'interests of justice' in legal reforms Bill

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The two most senior judges launched a strong attack yesterday on the Lord Chancellor over what they see as his omission of the "interests of justice" criterion from the Bill reforming the legal profession.

At the Bill's second reading in the Lords, Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, called on Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor, to explain why the "interests of justice" principle, which had been in the White Paper, was absent from the Courts and Legal Services Bill.

Lord Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, said the original statutory objective in the White Paper, the most important part, had been "wholly omitted" and therefore this part of the Bill was "fatally flawed".

Lord Donaldson said: "This Bill is all about achievement of justice for the ordinary citizen and that being so, justice must not only be but must be also seen to be paramount."

However, Lord Mackay, in an intervention from the Woolsack, denied that the "interests of justice" criterion had gone, although he accepted the wording of the Bill was different from the White Paper. The principle was there and was intended to prevail over the statutory objective to widen consumer choice in the provision of legal services.

The two judges criticized the role allotted to them under the Bill, which requires them to approve new rules governing the exercise of advocacy rights in higher courts by solicitors for the first time.

Describing the proposed machinery for making these rules as a "choreographed quadrille", Lord Donaldson said the judges would only be "joining the dance" at the end of the procedure. For his part, he said, he did not wish to be a "wallflower".

Lord Lane called on the Lord Chancellor to clarify that the independence of the judiciary from control by the executive was maintained under his proposals.

He also urged that a single body be in charge of the rules governing all the new advocates in the courts. That body, he said, should be under the control of the judges who in turn had control of the conduct of court proceedings.

As predicted, the Bill came under attack from a long line of peers and judges, although in markedly more muted tones than those of the previous debate in the Lords in April.

However, Lord Mackay came under fire on a new front over proposals for devolving much of the case load of the High Court down to the county courts. Lord Lane, cataloguing numerous instances of delays and staff shortages in the over-burdened county courts, said these proposals could not be brought into effect until the county courts were properly staffed and funded.

It was "misleading fantasy" to suggest the reforms could be implemented "while the infrastructure of the county courts was already crumbling," he said. He urged that part of the Bill be "put on ice" until the courts crisis had been tackled. "One does not want to see the same mistakes as have been made with the Crown Prosecution Service. Unless something drastic is done, and done soon, part one of this Bill, for the time being at any rate, must be put on ice."

In a strident attack on proposals to allow solicitors into the higher courts, Lord Hutchinson of Lullington said that for the first time it would be possible for judges to be taken to court for personal damages if they did not approve the new rules allowing advocates into the courts.

This meant judges could be sued by "any little upstart solicitor, accountant, probate agent, or what you will, who feels aggrieved". Lord Hailsham, the former Lord Chancellor, said it was paradoxical that while judges could be sued, magistrates were to be granted immunity from prosecution over their decisions.

Parliament, page 11

Chancellor caught in Whitehall hitch



Every politician must be adept at manoeuvring out of difficult positions and yesterday was no exception for Mr John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Richard Ford writes). He had travelled only a few hundred yards from a Cabinet meeting at No10 when his chauffeur-driven saloon car came to an unceremonious halt in a gully of wet cement in Whitehall. With the blue Rover stuck in the roadworks, Mr Major switched to another vehicle for the rest of his journey – leaving his official car to be pulled out by a tractor. The Treasury said: "It was a minor incident. The Chancellor received no injury."

SouthEast rail to lose subsidy

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

Government subsidy for Network SouthEast, the commuter and passenger network serving London and the South, will be phased out completely by 1993, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday.

The announcement followed publication of British Rail's performance objectives for 1990-93, which also includes a £55 million subsidy reduction for the loss-making provincial service which serves the rural areas. Network SouthEast and Provincial receive £141 million and £400 million in subsidy respectively at present.

Mr John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, said the reduction was a continuation of the Government's "disastrous penny-pinching approach towards BR," and predicted it would result in fare increases of 4 per cent above inflation each year for the next 10 years.

Mr Stephen Joseph, a spokesman for Transport 2,000, the lobby group, said: "The Government is expecting the railway to do more with less."

Mr Parkinson said subsidy reductions and increased investment would not "lead to large fare increases," because of the substantial gains still to be made from increases in productivity and efficiency throughout the rail network.

Parliament, page 11

Ambulance peace call by church leaders

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Senior church leaders last night held the Government morally responsible for hardship caused by the ambulance dispute and warned that more lives were at risk unless it was resolved.

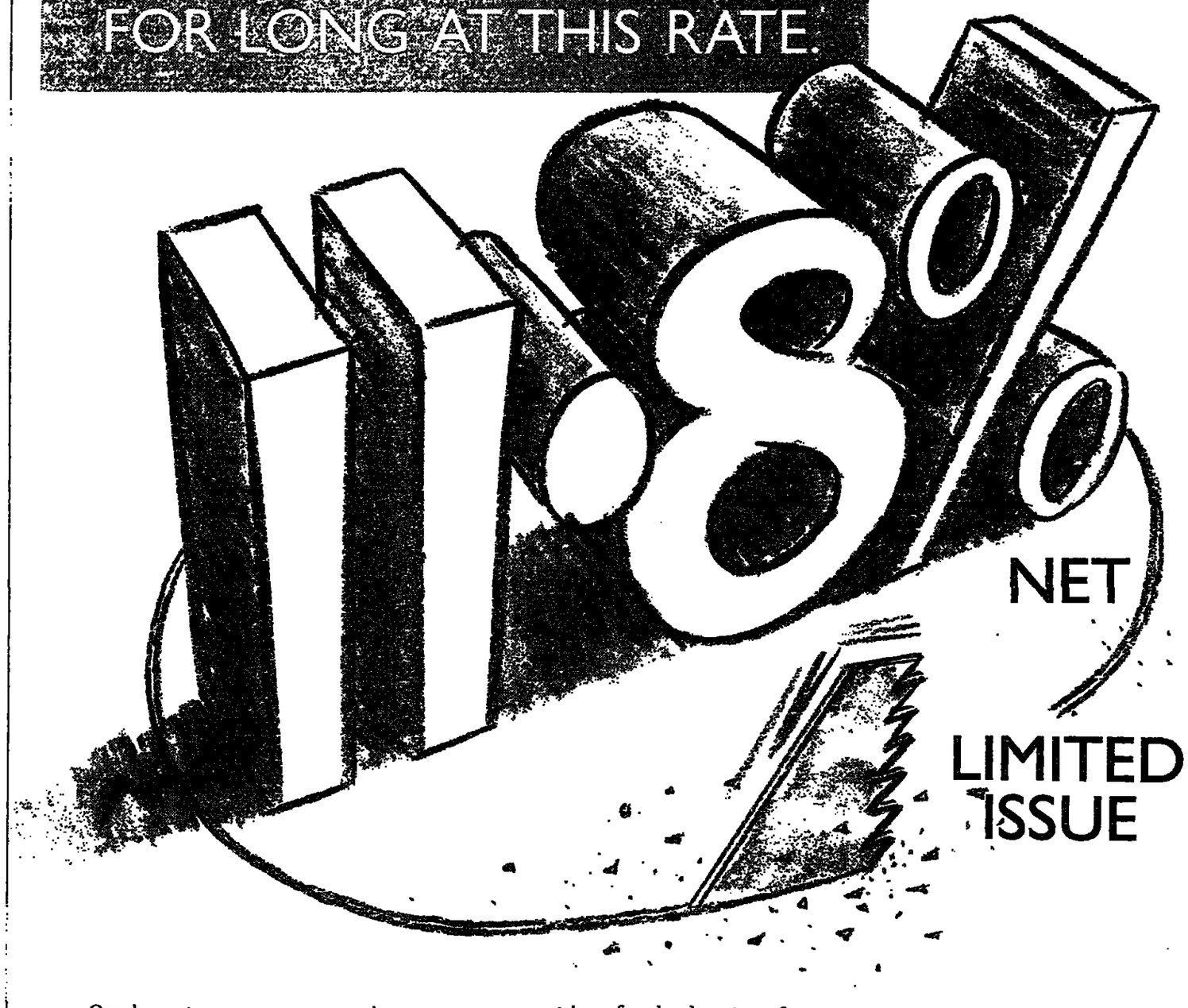
A statement signed by eight clergymen of all denominations, said they were "deeply concerned" about the effects the 15 week old dispute was having on Britain's accident and emergency services.

They said settlement of the dispute was a matter of negotiation between the unions and employers and added: "Nevertheless, Christian teaching common to all the churches would hold that government is ultimately responsible for the common good of the nation and in particular has a special responsibility for ensuring that those in need are properly served."

Yesterday's statement was signed by the Rt Rev John Yates, Bishop of Gloucester; the Most Rev Thomas Winning, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow; the Rt Rev Augustine Harris, Bishop of Middlesbrough; the Very Rev Dr William Johnston, Moderator of a British Council of Churches division; the Rev Norman Shanks of the Church of Scotland; the Rev Brian Duckworth of the Methodist Church; the Rev John Reardon of the United Reformed Church and the Rev Douglas Sparks of the Baptist Union.

CAPITAL XTRA

OUR LATEST INVESTMENT ACCOUNT WON'T BE AROUND FOR LONG AT THIS RATE.



Our latest investment account also pays our highest rate of interest.

An incredible 11.80% net on savings of £10,000 or more.

And we guarantee to pay at least 5% above our variable Paid Up Share rate for 12 months.

However, to get the full benefit of Capital Xtra, we would ask you to leave your money with us for the duration of the term.

You're at liberty to make withdrawals beforehand, of course. (As long as you're prepared to forfeit the equivalent to 90 days' interest on the amount taken out.)

Should you wish to add to Capital Xtra before the offer expires, please feel free to do so.

The catch?

Well, coming from the World's No.1 Building Society, there isn't one, naturally.

But such a generous offer has to be a limited offer.

To avoid disappointment, call into your nearest Halifax Building Society branch for full details.

At this rate you'd better be quick.

HALIFAX

BY OPENING A CAPITAL XTRA ACCOUNT YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY AND ARE BOUND BY THE RULES. A COPY OF THE RULES, AND THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ACCOUNT ARE AVAILABLE AT ANY BRANCH. INTEREST IS PAID NET OF LIABILITY TO BASIC RATE INCOME TAX AND IS VARIABLE. INTEREST IS PAID ANNUALLY ON 30TH APRIL. AFTER 12 MONTHS YOUR CAPITAL XTRA ACCOUNT AUTOMATICALLY CONVERTS TO A 90 DAY XTRA ACCOUNT, (OR EQUIVALENT AT THE TIME) AND WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THAT ACCOUNT HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY, TRINITY ROAD, HALIFAX, WEST YORKSHIRE, HX1 2RG.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Medical audit to boost clinical care

A £31 million drive to improve clinical standards in the health service by a national medical audit was launched yesterday (Jill Sherman writes).

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, said the medical audit, where doctors analyse and improve performance through peer review, would have more impact than any other element of the health service reforms.

The move could eventually lead to published tables showing variations in performance at every hospital based on adjusted rather than crude data.

Mr Clarke expects managers will have access to information about standards of care in their hospitals and about whether clinicians are turning up for operating sessions.

The extent of access will be determined largely by doctors. Each district will have its own medical audit team which will decide how the information should be handled. These are expected to be made up entirely of clinicians.

The medical profession had already successfully introduced audit in some areas, Mr Clarke said.

£360m frigates order

A Royal Navy order announced yesterday for three Type 23 frigates will guarantee about 10,000 jobs (Michael Evans writes). The order, placed with Swan Hunter at Newcastle upon Tyne, upholds the Government's promise to maintain a destroyer and frigate fleet of "around 50". Yards at Glasgow and Birkenhead had competed for the contract.

The frigates, the Royal Navy's latest anti-submarine warships, each cost about £120 million. They will be ready in four or five years and will be named HMS Westminster, Northumberland and Richmond. Parliament, page 11

Two to be deported

Two Iranians held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act are to be deported, but two others have been released. All four had been detained in Manchester and their solicitor said they were suspected of plotting to kill Salman Rushdie, author of *The Satanic Verses*.

● The Speaker of the Iranian parliament, reacting to the arrests, threatened that British Muslims would continue their agitation. (Hazhir Teimourian writes).

Vauxhall deal bonus

Nearly 10,000 Vauxhall workers are to receive a £550 bonus for settling their pay dispute before Christmas (Kevin Eason writes). The deal is worth 9.7 per cent next year with a further rise of the inflation rate plus £5 a week in 1991. The agreement, which comes after a 10.3 per cent deal at Nissan, was announced as more than 32,000 Ford workers were expected to call a strike over a 9.5 per cent offer. Voting in the Dagenham bodyshop was four to one in favour of action.

Freighter missing

Six British seamen were feared drowned last night after a big international search in the Bay of Biscay failed to locate the 4,000-tonne freighter, Marine. The crew, who are thought to be from the North-east, should have arrived in Seville, Spain, five days ago after sailing from Liverpool on December 9. The 220ft coaster, carrying 2,500 tonnes of scrap metal, was believed to have foundered in mountainous seas off Cape Finistere during storms at the weekend.

Belfast tower project

Several hundred Civil Service jobs to be moved from London may be placed in a £15 million tower in the centre of Belfast. The 14-storey Great Northern Tower and arcade, to be built on the former Great Victoria Street Station site, will offer 100,000 sq ft of office space and 18,500 sq ft of shops. The project, which should be complete in 1991, was announced after Mr Richard Needham, Under Secretary at the Northern Ireland Office, agreed that Green Belt land in the city should be released to provide 6,500 homes.

Dons join students in protest over loan plan

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

University academics yesterday voted to join the National Union of Students' campaign against banks participating in the Government's student loans scheme and said they were prepared to close colleges down in protest.

Members of the Association of University Teachers, which represents 30,000 academics, voted at their winter council meeting to urge members to withdraw their accounts from any of the ten banks participating in the scheme. They also mandated their executive committee to "give full support" to a call from the NUS to help with a national one-day shut down of universities, but stopped short of calling for a ballot on industrial action.

Rates: The Times overseas: Austria Sch 32; Belgium B Frs 55; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pset 250; Cyprus 90 cents; Denmark Dkr 14.00; Finland Mks 10.00; France F 10.00; W Germany Dm 3.50; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 220; Holland Gl 3.50; Irish Republic 90p; Italy L 3,000; Luxembourg Lf 55; Madeira Esc 220; Malta 40c; Morocco Dir 13.00; Norway Kr 14.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 220; Spain Pes 250; Sweden Skr 14.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.50; Tunisia Din 1.20; USA $2.50.

Tory MP is found dead in his Jaguar at remote chalk pit

By Quentin Cowdry, Craig Seton and Nicholas Wood

Mr John Heddle, the Conservative MP, was found dead in his Jaguar car at a remote chalk pit yesterday. He had apparently committed suicide.

Mr Heddle, a director of three companies involved in property or mortgage finance, is believed to have been hit hard by the slump in the housing market. Friends of the Mid-Staffordshire MP said he had financial problems and had become badly depressed recently.

His body was found by a passer-by early yesterday morning at The Downs, Chartham, near Canterbury. A hosepipe, connected to the car's exhaust, had been fed through a window of the dark green Jaguar. A post mortem examination was carried out yesterday afternoon and the Kent coroner was informed.

Mr Heddle had a majority of 14,654 in his Birmingham commuter-belt constituency at the last election and the Conservatives would normally be confident of staving off any challenge. But with Labour enjoying a commanding lead in the opinion polls and the Government under pressure on the economy, a dramatic upset cannot be ruled out.

Mr Heddle, who entered Parliament in 1979, was known as a genial, flamboyant character with keen interests in housing, local governemnt and the environment.

In April, he was accused of assaulting a Spanish police officer who had given him a parking ticket and he had been due to stand trial in Spain, but friends said last night that the MP had not been seriously worried about the affair.

However, close associates disclosed that he did have business problems. He had also been shouldering the expense of maintaining four private properties and putting two children through school.

Mr Peter Brown, president of Mr Heddle's constituency party, said the MP had seemed under considerable stress when they dined together recently. "I know there must have been some serious financial problems," he said. "I know high interest rates were a worry to him."

Other friends suggested contributory factors may have been the death of his first wife, Judith, and his disappointment at not becoming even a junior minister.

Mrs Judith Heddle died of a heart attack, aged 41, four years after their divorce. They had been married 21 years. Mr Robin Carver, a Canterbury councillor and longstanding friend, said: "He was very depressed about the divorce which I don't think either of them actually wanted."

Mr Malcolm Mitchell, editor of the *East Kent Mercury*, who had known Mr Heddle since he was a teenager, said: "I think he wanted greater success in Parliament than he achieved. At one point, about three or four years ago, he was talking about getting out of politics altogether".

Mr Kenneth Baker, Conservative party chairman, described Mr Heddle as a loyal and conscientious MP who had also been a good friend.

Mr Gerald Bowden, Tory MP for Dulwich, said it was a great shock to learn of the death of such a "vital, energetic and busy man". He was a stalwart parliamentary colleague and a fighter for his constituents' interests".

Mr Heddle's second wife, Janet, was last night being comforted by friends and was said to be too distressed to comment. The MP also leaves two sons and two daughters.

Obituary, page 18



Mr John Heddle: Financial worries.

Royal protest at prize-giving

TIM BISHOP



The Bishop of London confers with the Prince of Wales at the presentation of the Thomas Cranmer Schools Prize at St James's Church in the City of London. The Prince used the occasion to attack declining standards in the use of English.

Youths in custody over fatal ritual

By Ronald Faux

Two youths who killed a workmate in a shop-floor initiation ceremony were sentenced to youth custody at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday.

Tony Tucker, aged 17, had been doused with highly inflammable paint thinners. As he cleaned himself in the works lavatory, two colleagues put lighted matches under the cubicle door, setting him alight.

Colin Plumkett, aged 17, of Eastleigh, Skelmersdale, was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 18 months' youth custody. David Farrell, aged 19, of Tong Barn, Skelmersdale, who admitted a similar charge and was sentenced to two years. Mr Justice Boreham said: "A boy has died not at your wish but at your hands. A young life has needlessly been thrown away and you know it."

He said he reduced the sentences as far as possible to take into account their previous good character and accepted that they had not intended to cause any harm. Even so, they knew the dangers involved.

Mr William Waldron, QC, for the prosecution, said that Mr Tucker had allowed his workmates at the Typolac paint factory in Skelmersdale to douse him with thinners on January 28. Farrell's match had caused the explosion in which Mr Tucker received 80 per cent burns. He died three weeks later at Preston Royal Infirmary.

Attacks on Labour homes policy

By Nigel Williamson
Political Staff

The Government sought yesterday to exploit what it believes is a significant Labour Party gaffe over the right to own a second home.

Mr Chris Patten, the Secretary of State for the Environment, wrote to Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, asking him to dissociate himself from the document issued by Mr Bryan Gould on Monday which proposed that councils should have the right to require planning permission before dwellings could be used as second homes.

Mr Patten said that any prohibition on second homes was "both spiteful and impractical".

Mr Kenneth Baker, the chairman of the Conservative Party, accused Mr Gould of wanting to "tell people where to live, how to live and what to do". Homeowners would lose the right to pick any buyer.

Mr Kinnock, who has just returned from East Berlin, had not replied to Mr Patten's letter last night but Labour officials dismissed any prospect of the policy being dropped.

However, Mr Clive Soley, Labour's housing spokesman, responded to a call by Mr Patten to the Labour leader "to reassure all your Parliamentary colleagues who themselves own second homes".

Mr Soley said: "Clearly anyone who has to maintain two homes because of their job would be exempt from any local authority requirement. That would obviously apply to an MP who has to be in London all week but represents a constituency at the other end of the country."

Mr Soley said he believed that the right for local authorities to require planning permission would be popular among Conservative councils in the areas most affected by the second home problem, the South-west, Cumbria and parts of Wales.

The Conservative-controlled Association of District Councils said yesterday that it had no firm policy but was looking at the whole area of second home ownership.

Telephone complaints

10m obscene calls made each year

More than 10 million obscene calls are made to women each year, according to Office of Telecommunications estimates, which show that a further 5,000 obscene calls are made to men.

Sir Bryan Carsberg, director general of telecommunications, says in his 1989 service report that there is substantial evidence of other nuisance calls, and he has demanded that British Telecom acts to protect its customers.

"I have asked BT to carry out a review of its procedures to deal with nuisance calls. I expect it to be proactive in its efforts to protect customers from these calls, using the facilities provided by modern technology to the full."

In one survey, more than 70 per cent of customers had received unsolicited sales approaches by telephone in the previous 12 months. Sir Bryan said: "I recognize that telephone selling is extremely unpopular with telephone customers on the whole and that it may be regarded as diminishing the quality of service a customer receives from the telephone.

"On my recommendation, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry has incorporated a condition regulating such calls in the new Branch Systems General Licence."

> **"The nuisance caller is seeking a reaction. If they don't get it, they stop"**

Oftel reports that it received more than 9,000 complaints and inquiries about the telephone service in each of the first three quarters of this year, compared with about 7,000 a quarter last year. But Sir Bryan said the increase could be partly explained by improvements in Oftel procedures.

One survey showed that 87 per cent of customers were either very satisfied or fairly satisfied with Telecom's service, and 63 per cent thought the service represented either very good or fairly good value.

Network reliability increased, especially the speed with which faults were repaired. The number of public call boxes in serviceable order rose to 95 per cent, meeting Telecom's targets.

The directory inquiries service also improved, with fewer calls failing to get through because of congestion.

British Telecom said it had set up a nationwide taskforce involving police and women's organizations to deal with nuisance calls.

Leaflets offering advice are being sent to customers and those who are persistently harassed are offered operator interception, monitoring and new numbers.

"We advise customers to hang up immediately if they receive a nuisance call. Often the caller is someone known to them, someone in their close circle of friends," a spokesman said.

"The nuisance caller is seeking an emotional reaction from the person they are harassing. If they don't get that reaction, they usually stop."

Customers are advised to keep a record of all such calls, including the time, date and duration, which can be given to police.

Most victims over 65

Flu outbreak kills 102 in one week

By David Cross

At least 120 people have died from the influenza epidemic, according to the latest figures published by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys yesterday.

The weekly figures for registered deaths from "influenza and influenza pneumonia" showed a sharp rise from 16 at the beginning of the month to 102 during the week ending December 8 when the latest bout began to gather momentum.

That compared with an average of only about four deaths a week last month and seven during the first week of December last year. Most of the victims were believed to be people over 65 who were most vulnerable to the A strain of the H3N2 virus responsible for this year's outbreak.

In Scotland 13 elderly patients have died as a result of the outbreak in a Glasgow hospital and another six, all in their 80s and 90s, in the Nithsdale District of Dumfries and Galloway. At both Gartloch Hospital and Dumfries Infirmary two wards have been closed with more than 40 nurses off sick and only emergency operations being carried out.

One of the latest victims was Susanne Thackeray, aged 15, from Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, who died from bronchial pneumonia after apparently beginning to recover from flu. Her parents, who were themselves in bed with the illness, called a doctor last Friday when she developed breathing difficulties. He prescribed antibiotics but when her mother went into her room on Saturday morning she found Susanne dead in bed.

On Merseyside, Evans Medical, a pharmaceutical company which produces vaccine at Speke, Liverpool, said that it would import supplies from the US to help cope with the crisis in Britain. "The US is not in the grip of a flu epidemic and some 500,000 of the 2.5 million doses Evans Medical exported earlier this year have been located.

"It is anticipated that the first of these fresh supplies of vaccine will be available from wholesalers on December 27," it added.

● Influenza was continuing to spread across parts of northern Europe, particularly France, but not on the scale experienced in Britain, the World Health Organization reported last night.

In France, the disease was spreading rapidly from Paris and hitting the south, while reports from Belgium, Switzerland and the Soviet Union indicated that it was also on the rise.

PORTFOLIO PLATINUM

Winner plans cycle holiday

Mrs Val Moon, a mature student, who won the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize, hopes to spend the money on a holiday after her exams.

Mrs Moon, aged 48, is studying for A levels in law and psychology and hopes to go to Nottingham University next year to take a degree in English and psychology.

Mrs Moon, of West Bridgford, Nottingham, said: "My husband and I are keen cyclists and we would like to cycle and take the train round Europe as a break following my A levels.

"I have been playing Portfolio since it started because I find it interesting and you always hope you are going to win something."



Mrs Moon: Hoping to go to university next year

Christmas post to raise £1m for charity

By Paul Wilkinson

The Post Office expects to deliver a record 108 million letters and cards this Christmas, a slight increase on last year's total of 107 million. It expects to deliver 1.5 billion items this year.

Yesterday was the last posting day for guaranteed delivery before the holiday, but the peak of posting came last weekend and officials expect numbers to decline gradually as the week passes.

Almost 25,000 extra workers have been taken on to assist the Post Office's full-time staff of 140,000. It has not reported any significant delays or problems, but the Post Office would not say how successful it has been in moving all the mail before Christmas.

"Ask us on Friday" was the only response.

Community groups have already benefited to the tune of £100,000 from Christmas charity stamps.

The Post Office said last night that it was well on its way to its target of £1 million from customers prepared to pay an extra penny for their stamps this year.

"The first £100,000 has already been released to the Charities Aid Foundation for distribution" a spokesman said. Awards ranging from £1,000 to £5,000 have been made to a variety of organizations from boys clubs and local YMCAs to theatre groups and schools.

An official of the Charities Aid Foundation said that it had received 400 applications for assistance and 4,000 inquiries. "We are still receiving requests for details at the rate of 150 a day."

"We are trying to spread the donations as wide as possible with money going to projects from Northern Ireland to the South for things from Age Concern to youth clubs."

Auction houses end decade with sales soaring

SALEROOM

by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

The top two auction houses are ending the decade on an ebullient note with both announcing booming financial results yesterday.

Sotheby's turnover has increased 79 per cent this year to £1.82 billion in sterling terms, while Christie's has risen to £1.3 billion. The Christie's total is greater than that for the first five years of the decade put together.

The autumn season, just closing, was marked by a world record of $20.7 million (£13 million) for a Contemporary work of art, and the £3.74 million record for a Chinese work of art. During the period Sotheby's achieved a 99 per cent increase to £957.3 million, while Christie's rose 70 per cent to £675 million compared with last autumn.

The figures were up relatively less in dollar terms — reflecting exchange rate changes — at 72 per cent at Sotheby's and 49 per cent for Christie's.

The figures also showed New York's new supremacy as an auction capital. Turnover for Christie's during the autumn season was £372 million in New York, compared with £202 million in London.

Lord Carrington, chairman of Christie's International, said the company had sold 115 works for art for more than $1 million, compared with 50 in that price bracket in the previous autumn season.

"Strength of the world market," he said, has been "underpinned by the growth in world wealth, and the emergence of new buyers into the arena."

There were also signs his company could be fighting back in Europe with big increases in sales in Italy and Monaco. The total turnover for Europe was £441.4 million. With the coming of the Single Market in 1992, the "London" auction houses hope to make advances into Paris, presently a closed-shop for French auctioneers, who are appointed by the government.

Benchmarks at Sotheby's include their first art auction in Tokyo for many years, which totalled £5.5 million. Worldwide, the company auctioned $797 million worth of Impressionist, Modern and Contemporary works during the autumn season alone.

Mr Michael Ainslie, President and Chief Executive Officer at Sotheby's, said: "The opportunities for forming major collections have never been better.

The "flow of significant works on to the market is stronger than we have ever witnessed".

He added that "balanced competition from Asia, Europe and the United States has become a regular feature of the international art auction market".

Phillips, the third largest auction house, which bought up a string of auction houses from the Prudential during the year, noted an increased turnover of 14 per cent, to £108,630,000. Mr Christopher Weston, the company's chairman and chief executive, said: "The art market has shown strength especially at a time of uncertainty in other areas such as residential property."

Case against police in Wapping stopped

Seven police officers charged following allegations of police brutality in clashes outside the News International newspaper plant in Wapping, east London, yesterday won their High Court battle to have the charges dropped.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Mr Justice Garland ruled that Mr Ronald Bartle, a Bow Street magistrate's decision in May to discharge the case against six of the police officers for allegedly conspiring to pervert the course of justice, could not be faulted.

In the case of the seventh, Police Constable Russell Cherry, the judges ruled the charge of unlawful wounding should be quashed because Mr Geoffrey Wicks, the magistrate's decision was based on "flawed findings". Constable Cherry was not told of the charge until 13 months after the incident and 11 months after he had been identified as the alleged perpetrator of a serious assault. In May Mr Wicks decided committal proceedings against Constable Cherry should go ahead because although there had been extreme delay it had not prejudiced his case.

The other six officers involved were Sergeant Robert Goodger, and Police Constables Ian Storrar, Nigel Pratt, Gavin Steff, Terence Chitty, and Ivan Szubin.

Mr Mike Bennett, Chairman of the Metropolitan Branch of the Police Federation said he was "delighted" for the policemen. "I hope the honourable thing is done in respect of the other officers." There are still another 18 cases outstanding. They are due to be heard at Bow St in the new year.

The Director of Public Prosecutions is considering an appeal to the House of Lords.

Law report page 32

British Rail chairman admits service 'wholly unacceptable'

By Michael Horsnell

Frustrated passengers on one of the busiest commuter lines into London were astonished yesterday to hear Sir Robert Reid, British Rail's retiring chairman, agree with them that the service had slipped "to a wholly unacceptable level".

Sir Robert finally got the point after being bombarded with complaints about decrepit conditions on the line from Fenchurch Street to Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

In reply to a succession of letters from Mr Teddy Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East, Sir Robert promised an emergency programme aimed at eradicating delays and postponements, filthy carriages of indeterminate age and dangers to women at night from hooligans. Sir Robert wrote: "I acknowledge that performance on this route has slipped to a wholly unacceptable level, but we have a firm commitment to improving standards with considerable investment in new equipment."

Commuters arriving at Fenchurch Street yesterday reacted with incredulity. Mr Michael Crosby, aged 18, a bank systems operator, of Leigh-on-Sea, said: "I think it's absolutely amazing that the chairman of BR should say this after all this time. He's absolutely right. The service is awful. Trains are cancelled or delayed every day."

Miss Zodie Hawkins, aged 19, a student, of Southend, said: "The drunks at night can be a real nuisance and if there is anyone from BR patrolling the trains they do nothing about it. We don't so much need special women-only carriages as drunks-only. It's diabolical." Sir Robert promised that new rolling stock and signalling equipment would resolve many of the problems on the line. Better transport information displays would be introduced, rolling stock maintenance and cleanliness improved.

Guards on trains after 8pm would be equipped with "panic buttons", giving them direct contact with drivers who would be able to call police by telephone.

Mr Taylor said his constituents suffered from poor service and inadequate investment "at a time when British Rail's cash is being poured into glamorous services like the Channel tunnel link".

He said he was surprised by Sir Robert's frank admission. "It must be unprecedented for the chairman of BR to say these things in writing. I'm glad we've finally got our message through. Something has got to be done and now at last it looks as though it will," he said.

● British Rail has reported a 60 per cent increase in seat reservations compared with this time last year as passengers adjust to the introduction of train boarding controls which take effect today (Michael Dynes writes).

Under the scheme, passengers using busy InterCity services from King's Cross, Paddington and Euston stations over the Christmas period will not be allowed to board trains without a pass.

Passes must be obtained for most InterCity trains from King's Cross and most InterCity trains from Paddington to the West Country and some services to South Wales until Saturday. Passes will also be required for most long-distance trains to the North-west and Scotland from Euston on Friday and Saturday. British Rail said the boarding passes would help channel demand for particular services in an effort to reduce overcrowding. The passes, available free from British Rail ticket offices and commercial travel agents, will be linked to the computerized seat reservation system. British Rail denied the passes would lead to a long-term ban on passengers standing in trains.

● No trains will run on Christmas Day. On Boxing Day, there will be a limited service between London Victoria and Gatwick Airport and between London St Pancras and Luton. Network SouthEast will operate to a Saturday timetable on New Year's Day, when there will be no trains in Scotland except for a limited service between London and Edinburgh.

The Times on Boxing Day

The Times will be the only broadsheet newspaper to publish on Boxing Day this year.
To ensure that you get your copy please complete the coupon below and hand it to your newsagent.

Please reserve/deliver me a copy of *The Times* for December 26

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

HOWEVER DEEPLY YOU'RE INVOLVED IN THE WATER FLOTATION, BARCLAYS IS BETTER EQUIPPED TO HELP.

As the H_2O floodgates open, Barclays is poised to help you make the most of your money.

For those wishing to go liquid on their water shares, there's the Barclayshare dealing service.

A fast, efficient service available through every branch of Barclays. And open to both customers and non-customers alike.

For a minimum of £12.50 + VAT, we'll sell your shares 'at best.'

Furthermore, family members with the same surname and address, and who have invested in the same water company, can bulk up to four certificates together.

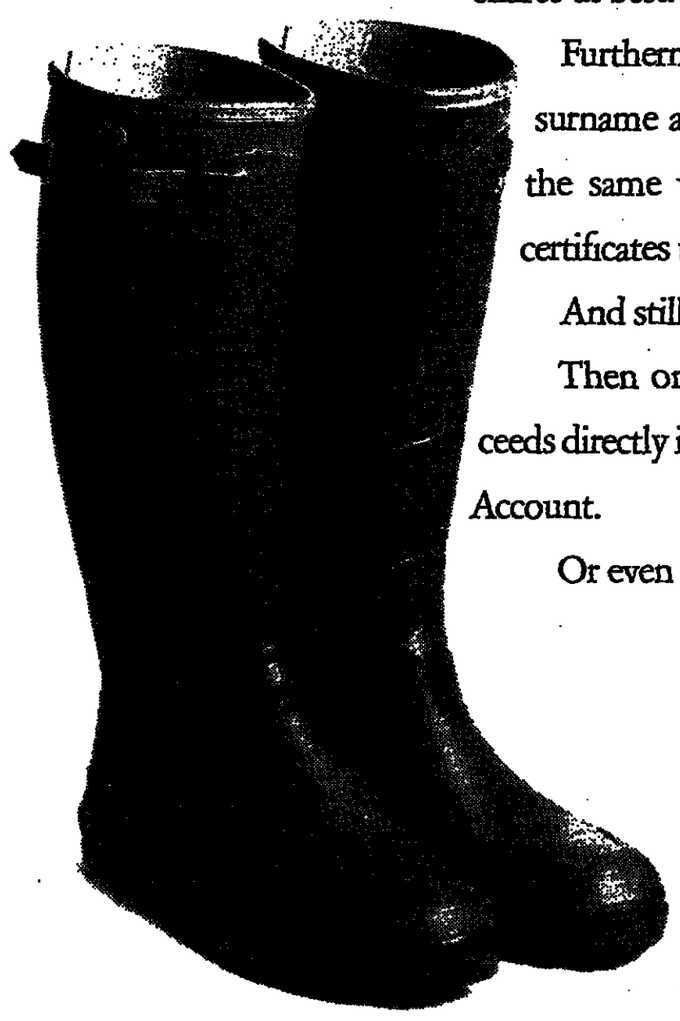
And still only pay one transaction fee.

Then on settlement date, we can pay the proceeds directly into your Barclays Higher Rate Deposit Account.

Or even open an account for you.



RECEIVED ALL YOUR SHARES.



RECEIVED SOME SHARES AND A CHEQUE.



YOUR CHEQUE RETURNED.

An account which pays 9% interest on £500 – £9,999. (Or a 9.31% compounded annual rate of interest since interest is paid quarterly.)

And an even healthier rate on sums over £10,000.

Plus it allows you instant access to your money.

Making it equally attractive to those who've had a cheque returned along with their shares.

Whoever's shoes you're in after the H_2O flotation, you'll be home and dry at Barclays.

+++ YOU'RE BETTER OFF TALKING TO BARCLAYS

MINIMUM CHARGE £12.50 + VAT FOR LIMITED PERIOD ONLY. RATES MAY VARY. BARCLAYS BANK PLC IS A MEMBER OF IMRO. REGISTERED OFFICE: 54, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, EC3P 3AH. BARCLAYSHARE IS A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES ASSOCIATION AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL STOCK EXCHANGE. BARCLAYSHARE SERVICES ARE ONLY AVAILABLE TO UK RESIDENTS FOR TAX PURPOSES, WITH LIMITED AVAILABILITY OVERSEAS.

CAA tightens regulations on working hours of flight staff

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

The Civil Aviation Authority yesterday tightened the rules governing the length of time a pilot can be on duty following repeated reports that crews were becoming too tired to remain at a peak state of alertness during repetitive long spells at the controls.

The new regulations, which come into force next May were criticized by pilots as being too lax and by airlines for being too rigid.

The Civil Aviation Authority gathered detailed evidence of pilot fatigue from a wide range of international medical and aviation experts as well as from 60 inspectors who travelled with pilots on hundreds of trips over the past two years.

"The need to strike a balance between the many and varied views of all those who have an interest and aero medical evidence, and at the same time not disadvantage the United Kingdom industry, dictates that the composition of a scheme must set a standard which reflects the common good" the new regulations state.

Mr Ron Ashford, CAA group director of safety and regulation, said: "Some airlines will say we have gone to far and some pilots will say we have not gone far enough which means we have probably got it about right.

"We have listened to both sides and tried to produce a document based on safety." Pilots will be limited to the number of hours they can fly in any one or two weeks rather than the existing month-long period.

In future pilots will be limited to a maximum time on duty of 55 hours in any one week or 95 in any two weeks.

This is in an attempt to prevent some airlines, especially charter carriers, from forcing pilots to work long hours in short bursts and to spread the flying workload more evenly among flight crews.

For the first time the effects of sleep disturbance caused by night-time flying has been recognized by limiting work periods to no more than three consecutive night flights and imposing a limit of four early starts or late finishes in any seven-day period.

Pilots will also have to be given seven days off in any four weeks rather than the present six.

The number of flying hours crews can operate remains at 100 hours a month and 900 hours a year.

Up until now no air crew member has been allowed to be on duty for more than 200 hours in any one month.

This is now being reduced to 190 hours.

Duty periods include the time taken to get from home to the airport and any waiting time caused by air traffic control or other delays.

It is hoped that the regulations will be accepted throughout Europe. Talks have been held with European safety authorities who have agreed to use the British proposals as a working guide to an eventual international agreement to be implemented from 1992.

The pilots union Balpa, accused the CAA of bowing to pressure from operators and airlines.

"They decided to accept arguments based on commercial interests which prejudice the safety of pilots and passengers," a Balpa spokesman said.

"The new proposals are full of loopholes...and we are still not convinced the machinery for policing them is adequate."

Mr Howard Davies, secretary of the British Air Transport Association which represents 10 of the country's leading airlines said: "All airlines are interested in safety and if there is anything which needs doing to improve safety we will do it.

"However some of the changes which are both very detailed and rigid might lead to the loss of some of the flexibility which is needed to overcome delays caused by air traffic control problems. They could also mean that some airlines have to recruit more staff or change their rosters and this could present problems.

"Each airline will now have to study the regulations in detail and put forward their own individual rostering plan to the authority for approval."

One in 2 pregnant women opposed to blood test for Aids

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Many pregnant women may refuse to be tested for traces of the Aids virus in a scheme to be launched by the Government next month.

According to a survey published today at a British Psychological Society conference, fewer than half the women questioned were willing to have their blood tested for HIV.

The findings coincide with the Goverument announcement today of a national information campaign, aimed at winning public support for anonymous testing, due to begin in antenatal clinics in January.

Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Minister for Health, will give details of a leaflet and poster campaign encouraging patients' co-operation with anonymous testing, in which blood samples taken for other purposes will also be tested for HIV antibodies.

The scheme will be conducted at antenatal clinics and at clinics treating sexually transmitted diseases. Tests will also be carried out on samples taken from new-born babies in maternity units.

Miss Lorraine Sherr, a clinical psychologist at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London, interviewed women at two antenatal clinics in the capital for the survey.

She found that potential anxiety levels surrounding the HIV antibody test were markedly higher than for other routine tests which pregnant women undergo.

Although 82 per cent of the women in the survey felt that antenatal HIV testing should be available, fewer than half said they themselves would take the test.

The findings are to be discussed at the conference today.

Yesterday Dr Gerry Humphris, of Liverpool University, presented a study which showed that a third of 640 people interviewed were anxious about the risks of contracting HIV on a visit to their dentist, although there has been no recorded case anywhere in the world of transmission occurring in that way.

Dr Ben Fletcher, of Hatfield Polytechnic, told the conference that vicars suffered increasingly from stress and turned more to their wives for support.

His study of 230 Church of England priests showed that 87 per cent were married and of those, half said their wives were their most important source of support in their work.

According to another study, presented to the conference by Dr Nick Forster, of Sheffield University, companies were moving out of London at the rate of 100 a week, 25 per cent more than last year, but many of the employees involved find relocation the most stressful event in their lives after bereavement and divorce.

● Patients will have the right to see their medical records under a private members' Bill to be introduced in the Commons in the new year.

The Access to Health Records Bill, which has been promoted by the Campaign for Freedom of Information, would allow people to see, copy and correct mistakes in manually held medical records. The right of access to computerized medical records already exists under the Data Protection Act.

The Bill is being introduced by Mr Douglas Henderson, Labour MP for Newcastle upon Tyne North, who came thirteenth in the ballot for private members' Bills.

"It will allow people to be fully informed about their health and to discuss their illness and treatment with doctors on a more equal basis," he said last night.

The Bill is supported by 70 national organizations including the Royal College of Nursing, the Law Society, the Consumers' Association and about 300 general practitioners.

Mr Maurice Frankel, director of the campaign, said: "If someone has a complaint, or a difference of opinion with their doctor, they are usually not allowed to see the file, and have no safeguard if unfair comments, which stay on the record for life, are made."

TV crews reach for the Air Force stars

DENZIL McNEELANCE



The view from above: a winchman of D Flight, 202 Squadron, looks out from his helicopter over the Scottish plains during a search-and-rescue mission.

By David Nicholson-Lord

The challenges faced by the Air Force's search-and-rescue team at Lossiemouth — including its efforts in the Piper Alpha disaster — are to be the subject of a 13-part television documentary in the new year. Television cameras have accompanied D Flight Sea King helicopter crews on more than 100 emergencies in the past year, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the reforming of 202 fighter squadron into a search-and-rescue flight.

The series includes many of the incidents which form a regular part of the team's duties, from a dash to the Orkneys through thick fog to bring a premature baby to hospital in Aberdeen, to finding tourists trapped under avalanches and rescuing walkers from cliff faces.

Although the RAF's search and rescue system, co-ordinated from centres at Dunfermline, in Fife, and Plymouth, exists primarily to help aircraft crews, 90 per cent of its work comes from other sources.

The squadron was founded as a Royal Naval Air Service reconnaissance unit in October 1914. After service in both wars, it was assigned to gathering weather data before its reformation in 1964 to fly Westland Whirlwind helicopters on search-and-rescue duties.

'£200,000 for average house'

By David Nicholson-Lord

House prices could increase three and a half times by the end of the century, with the average price rising from £58,000 to £200,000, according to the Woolwich Building Society.

Fastest growth will be in the south of England, where average prices could rise to £450,000. The society says the North-South divide is set to widen further.

The highest increase is predicted around Maidstone in Kent, associated with the Channel Tunnel. There prices are forecast to rise by 344 per cent, compared with a national average of 245 per cent.

Cities expected to defy the North-South divide include Glasgow, Edinburgh and Sheffield. In contrast, there are doubts about whether the economic boom can be maintained along the M4 corridor and the Thames Valley, which will have repercussions for towns such as Reading.

● Hopes of selling the country estate at King's Somborne, near Winchester, of Sir Tommy Sopwith, the First World War hero, for £15 million have receded.

Agents who thought they would have no problem raising the asking price have been astounded by the lack of interest. They fear the bottom may be falling out of the multi-millionaires' market, which has been untouched by the property slump so far. Now the estate may be sold off as a leisure complex.

European fishing quotas

Coastal community drained of its lifeblood

By Kerry Gill

The people of Buckie, on the north-east coast of Scotland, were last night preparing themselves for the town's worst fishing season in living memory after hearing the European Commission's white fish quotas for next year. No-one doubted that thousands of people would lose their jobs.

The total allowable catch of haddock, mainstay of the Scottish fishing fleet, was set at 36,000 tonnes compared with 54,400 tonnes this year. The cod catch has been cut to 46,000 tonnes from 55,600.

Crewmen of the 72 ft trawler Fidelity reacted with derision. Mr James Stewart, the skipper, said of Mr John Gummer, the Minister of Agriculture, and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland: "I would like to take a gun to their heads."

Mr Stewart bought his second-hand trawler for £500,000 last December with a loan repayable over 10 years. "I will have to earn £300,000 next year just to keep the bank off my back," he said. "There's no doubt this will put a lot of the lads out of the door. There will just not be enough fish to keep the industry going much after July.

● Boats are going to be in poorer condition and going into more dangerous waters ●

The only way to keep fishing until next autumn would be to tie up for 10 days every month.

"I thought when we went into the EC they would plan for five years ahead, but that's just been tossed out the window. It is chaos now."

Buckie and its 8,000 population is typical of the towns and villages that line the Grampian coastline. Fishing is their lifeblood.

Mr Sandy Mackie, a local welder and haulier, was fixing stern gear on one of more than a score of silent vessels in port. "Ninety per cent of my business is connected with fishing," he said, pointing around the quayside: "Everything you see relies on a healthy fishing industry — there are two little shipyards, four netmakers and all the other businesses that couldn't survive if the boats didn't sail."

Over cigarettes and tea, the Fidelity's crew considered their future. Mr Alex Stewart, aged 29, said: "We knew the talks were going to be a cock-up. We will be on the dole come July."

Quota reductions have already led to vessels cutting corners to save money. Maintenance suffers and an eight-crew boat will usually sail with only six men on board. One said: "It gets more dangerous that way — it's obvious if you've got six men trying to do the job of eight. Boats are going to be in poorer condition and going into more dangerous waters; and that's when things go wrong."

Buckie knows all about the dangers of fishing: more than 20 townspeople have died at sea in recent years. A special memorial hall honouring the dead was visited by the Queen after the Celerity foundered with the loss of six local fishermen.

● The only way to fish until autumn is to tie up for 10 days each month ●

Mr Euan Chisholm, a local solicitor who is secretary of Buckie's Chamber of Commerce, said the banks would have to try to ride the storm.

"There is little point in repossessing a fishing boat if no one wants them." His opinion was echoed by Mr Stewart who said he could not give away his trawler: "On paper, it is worth £500,000, but who would want to buy a boat in this climate?"

To meet the changing demands of the fishing industry, many Buckie fishermen are commuting 50 miles to operate their boats out of Peterhead, the premier white fish port in Europe.

Although Peterhead will be affected by the inevitable cutbacks in the 700-vessel fleet, the blow will be softened by its recent efforts to attract herring and mackerel fishermen.

Last century, the women of Buckie carried their menfolk out to their boats on their backs to save them getting their feet wet before sailing. Last night, the Buckie stoicism appeared finally to have been beaten.

Lord Aldington libel case

Publisher agrees to £30,000 apology

Lord Aldington, who was awarded record libel damages of £1.5 million last month after being falsely accused of war crimes, won another £30,000 in libel damages in the High Court yesterday.

Century Hutchinson, publisher of *The Minister and the Massacres*, by Count Nikolai Tolstoy, agreed to the payment in settlement of a libel action brought by the peer.

Mr Charles Gray, QC, for Lord Aldington, told Mr Justice Michael Davies that the book developed the accusation of war criminality against Lord Aldington, accusing him of "conspiring to bring about the tragedy which befell thousands of Cossacks and Yugoslavs following their repatriation by British forces from Southern Austria in 1945 to Soviet and Titoist forces."

He said: "Lord Aldington was accused of defying his orders and deceiving his superior officers." Century Hutchinson agreed before the libel trial to apologize and pay the damages. It had accepted "that the very grave charges" in the book "were entirely untrue and that there was no such conspiracy as alleged".

Mr Gray said: "They accept that Lord Aldington was a brave and dedicated officer with a deservedly distinguished war record and that at all times he was conscientiously seeking to implement the orders of higher commands without suspicion that atrocities would be committed by the Soviets and Titoists."

They had agreed not to publish further copies of the book. The settlement was kept back until after the other case so as not to influence the jury.

Mr John Previte, QC, for the publishers, apologized "for the serious hurt and offence and damage to his reputation which those charges must undoubtedly have caused". Lord Aldington, of *Knoll Farm, Aldington*, Ashford, Kent, said: "I am very happy with the outcome and have put the money away. If the other case goes to appeal, I will face that when the day comes. In the meantime, I am going to enjoy Chrisimas."

Lord Aldington has not been paid any of the record award after Count Tolstoy, of Court Close, Southmoore, Oxfordshire, and Mr Nigel Watts, aged 51, a property developer, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, announced plans for a retrial. Both denied libel and claimed justification and fair comment.



Lord Aldington: 'very happy with the outcome.'

Pollution is ruled out as cause of dwindling stocks

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

Overfishing is not the only, or even the main, cause of the worrying decline in North Sea stocks of cod and haddock, according to British scientists. They say that the reasons for stock fluctuations involve a mix of factors which interact in ways that are still little understood.

"All we know for certain is that the number of new young fish joining the cod and haddock stocks has been well below average for three years running," an official at the Directorate of Fisheries Research run by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Lowestoft, said. "Some overfishing of quotas has occurred, but I do not think it has made all that difference."

Weather and temperature changes undoubtedly played a role, the official said. He dismissed suggestions that coastal pollution and plankton bloom were factors. "There is no clear evidence of this. Plankton bloom has in fact declined in recent years". The directorate monitors the levels of fish populations in the North Sea, co-ordinating and collating the information through the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, based in Copenhagen. Its figures show a declining trend in cod and haddock landings and spawning stocks since about 1980. Cod last had a good year in 1985 and haddock in 1986.

Cod spawn when they are four years old and haddock when they are three. Spawning occurs once annually and each fish lays tens of thousands of eggs. Only a few survive, the number varying widely from year to year for reasons that are not clear.

As a result of a succession of bad years, spawning stocks of cod have fallen over the past six years from 168,000 tonnes to 82,000 tonnes and those of haddock from 285,000 tonnes to 75,000 tonnes. To counter that, the exploration council recommended a 20 per cent cut in the level of catches next year. The European Commission had originally wanted a 30 per cent cut.

The deeper cut would have hit Britain hardest because it has the biggest quota share of the catches. In the event, Brussels agreed yesterday to increase the total allowable catch from 43,000 tonnes to 50,000 tonnes for haddock, the same as the council's recommendation, and the cod catch from 97,000 tonnes to 103,000 tonnes, only slightly below the council recommendation of 113,000 tonnes.

'Distressed' farmer fails to curb parachute school

A South Oxfordshire farmer lost a court appeal yesterday to curb the activities of a parachute school.

Mr David Parker told Oxford Crown Court that noise from low-flying aircraft and parachuting on land next to his farm at Shirburn, Watlington, caused distress to his young animals and terror to his wife's Arab mare.

"It has turned life on the farm into a nightmare," he told the court. "It causes me great distress to leave my livestock in distress."

Mr Parker said six parachutists landed on his farm earlier this year and many who jumped from aircraft over his land swooped low across his fields, causing young stock to run in fear. "I cannot do with my farm what I would like to do and we cannot plan to go away at weekends. We have to be there to shepherd the flock," he said.

He told Oxford Crown Court of an incident two years ago when he went to neighbouring Moor Court Farm with his shotgun after an aircraft made a low pass over his farm, frightening his wife's horse, which bolted.

"I was very distressed, but the shotgun was empty. I never threatened a life or threatened to blow a plane out of the sky. I just said I would shoot a tyre of the aircraft. I deeply regret saying that, but it probably did me some good," he said.

Mr Parker and his wife, Lynne, sought an injunction restraining the London Parachute school, run by Major Dick Barton, a former Army commando, from further trespass and nuisance with activities which disrupted farm life.

Mr Henry Franklin, who farmed the neighbouring land, said he only gained a small income from the school but supported their activities which raised thousands of pounds for charities through sponsored jumps. His own animals were not affected by the parachuting.

Major Barton, of Chippenham, Wiltshire, who took over the school last April, said it operated for only 28 days a year and raised more than £50,000 annually for charity. After learning of Mr Parker's complaint, he had moved the drop zone 300 metres in an attempt to pacify him.

Judge Francis Allen, in dismissing the application, said he was impressed by the evidence of a parachuting veterinary surgeon who said young animals were unlikely to be affected by parachutists.

"Quite plainly, it is distress to the Arab mare which is the real cause of concern, but I am equally satisfied it is of a particularly nervous disposition. Since the dropping zone was moved, there have been hundreds of drops by novice parachutists with no landings on the plaintiff's land."

Mr Parker and his wife were awarded nominal damages of £10 for previous trespasses by wayward parachutists. However, they were ordered to pay the costs of the hearing, which are likely to be several thousand pounds.

Hillsborough's 'remote' claims

By Peter Davenport

Lawyers acting for the victims of the Hillsborough disaster today begin a campaign to break new legal ground and establish the rights to compensation of claimants who suffered distress although they were not at the stadium.

They will ask Mr Justice Steyn at the High Court in Manchester to reserve six weeks of court time, originally set aside next year to hear test cases to establish liability, to be used to consider a number of "remoteness" cases.

Miss Nicola Harrison, spokeswoman for the Hillsborough Steering Committee, which represents about 200 legal firms acting for more than 1,000 claimants, said yesterday that around 100 claims fell into 14 disputed categories not covered by the decision of South Yorkshire Police to pay out compensation.

Among them were claims from relatives of those on the Leppings Lane terraces who watched the disaster unfold on television and suffered distress, shock and illness as a result. Other could come from supporters in other parts of the ground who watched as 95 people were killed.

Miss Harrison said the claims would break new legal ground.

Test cases to establish liability had originally been due to start on June 19. However South Yorkshire Police has agreed to pay compensation, which may eventually total £50 million although the force says the sum is not an admission of liability.

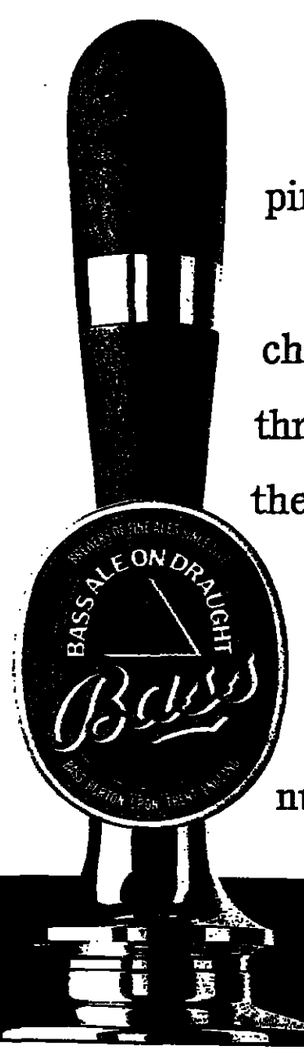
Lawyers have been negotiating with South Yorkshire Police to establish the size of individual payouts.



When you can't see what you're drinking, you have to concentrate on flavour.

DO YOUR EYES DECEIVE YOU?

NOT IF YOU'RE A DRAUGHT BASS EXPERT



When William Bass brewed his first pint in 1777, a true individual was born.

An individual whose essential characteristics have been preserved through constant care and diligence in the Bass tasting rooms.

These blue glasses are just one way our experts ensure every pint of Draught Bass we brew tastes as nutty, malty and distinctive as the last.

You've probably noticed that a good-looking pint automatically seems to taste better.

So just one glimpse of a pint like Draught Bass could all too easily impair our flavour-testers' judgement.

To make doubly sure this doesn't happen, they not only drink from blue glasses, but they do so in a darkened room. And only when the flavour of Draught Bass is perfect, will they allow it to see the light of day. ▲

You can tell it with your eyes closed.

Video evidence of child sex victims backed in report

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A change in the law so that child victims of sexual or violent abuse need not give evidence in open court was called for in a report published by the Home Office yesterday.

Instead, the report says, pre-recorded video evidence given by such children and other vulnerable witnesses such as victims of rape should be admissible in court.

The far-reaching reform is proposed by an advisory group drawn from the police, social services and the Bar under Judge Pigot, QC. It concludes that "radical changes are now required if the courts are to treat children in a humane and acceptable way".

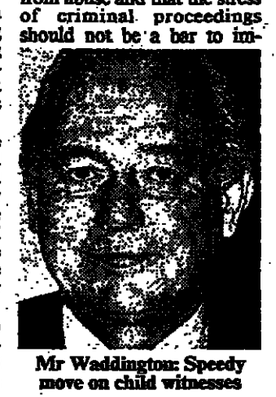
The group also proposes a number of other far-reaching changes aimed at making children's evidence more readily admissible in court and at reducing stress on victims during criminal proceedings.

All children, including those below the age of eight, should be regarded as competent witnesses unless the contrary is proved, it says; and there should be informal pre-trial hearings where vulnerable witnesses can give evidence and be cross-examined away from the court.

To admit as evidence video recordings of a fairly conducted interview with a child witness made as early as possible in informal surroundings would "give the court access to an important and quite crucial source of evidence".

Mr David Waddington, Home Secretary, who immediately announced a period of consultation up to April 30, 1990, on the report, is understood to be sympathetic to its findings and to wish to move quickly on them, at least as far as child witnesses are concerned.

The report was also welcomed by Mr John Patten, Home Office Minister of State. He said: "It is vital that children should be protected from abuse and that the stress of criminal proceedings should not be a bar to important evidence being heard.



Mr Waddington: Speedy move on child witnesses

The chief findings of the group, which was announced by the Home Secretary on June 20, 1988, are:

- Video recorded interviews should in general be admissible as evidence in crown court proceedings for child abuse and child sexual abuse. Interviews should be conducted in accordance with a statutory code of practice and the judge should have to take account of that code when deciding whether to admit the video in evidence.
- Children covered by these recommendations should not have to give evidence in open court. Where the defence wishes to cross-examine a child, they should do so in informal surroundings at a preliminary hearing from which the press and public should be excluded.
- These provisions should apply to other vulnerable witnesses, notably rape victims.
- The judge should no longer be required to give the jury a formal warning of the danger of convicting on uncorroborated evidence in trials for child sex abuse.

The report concludes that most children are disturbed to a greater or lesser extent by giving evidence in court. Factors such as the confrontation with the accused, the stress and embarrassment of speaking in public about sexual matters, the demands of cross-examination and "over-weening nature of court formalities" make that "a harmful, oppressive and often traumatic experience".

Also, the report says, children are less able to understand

● High percentage of crimes are against the very young ●

the reasons for the demands placed on them than adults, and the effects of giving evidence are "peculiarly injurious and very often long-lasting".

It notes that in other jurisdictions provisions are in force or are proposed to enable small children to give evidence away from criminal proceedings.

It also notes that the number of offences committed against children has not been matched by a corresponding rise in prosecutions. That is because a high percentage of the crimes are against the very young who are unable to testify in the criminal courts.

Report of the Advisory Group on Video Evidence (Home Office, 50 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT; £2).

Best 'put £50,000 in son's trust'



George Best yesterday: 'My son is first and my creditors second but I want to pay them both'.

George Best, the former footballer, denied yesterday that he paid £50,000 into a trust fund for his son to put the money out of reach of creditors.

Best, aged 43, who was declared bankrupt in 1982, was being questioned at the London Bankruptcy Court about the proceeds of a testimonial match in Belfast last year. The court was told assets had raised £20,124 but another £43,000 was needed to clear his debts and legal costs.

Best said he offered creditors £11,000 from the match but it was turned down by bankruptcy officials. "That is all I have got," he said.

Best has produced an account showing £75,708 was received from the testimonial. Mr Christopher Brougham, QC, for the bankruptcy trustee, told the court that the first beneficiary under the trust fund was George Best.

Best said: "I made one stipulation when they played that game that any money went to my son; that whatever happened to me, my son was taken care of; that when he came of age, it would pay for his education and clothing. I have not taken a penny of it." He said: "My son is first and my creditors second but I want to pay them both."

Counsel said: "This is a straightforward case of a bankrupt putting funds into a trust to put them out of reach of his creditors." Mr Registrar Dewhurst said Best was not making a full disclosure of his affairs. He adjourned the examination indefinitely.

Farm pollution

Big damages claim for pig slurry spill

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

A Suffolk pig farmer is facing a £27,000 claim for damages from the National Rivers Authority (NRA) after being convicted of polluting more than 40 miles of the Sapiston and Little Ouse rivers with slurry.

The authority is seeking the damages through civil action after Mr John Clarke, of Beyton, near Bury St Edmund's, was fined £10,000 in the local crown court. He may have to pay a further £38,000 to meet the legal costs of the case and the NRA investigation. It is the highest fine and compensation claim in a farm pollution incident.

"We are not surprised by the level of the penalty. We have warned farmers that we cannot condone pollution of this kind and that we support tough action by the NRA to discourage it," Mr Peter Fane, water adviser to the National Farmers' Union, said.

Mr Jerry Dodd, NRA spokesman for East Anglia, said: "The incident occurred last March 17 when one of the banks of Mr Clarke's slurry lagoon was breached after heavy rain. Some three million gallons of slurry escaped into a tributary of the Sapiston river, which in turn flows into the Little Ouse.

"We estimate that 10,000 adult fish, including dace, rudd, chub, bream, perch and roach, and an unknown number of younger fish were killed. About 40 miles of the two rivers were affected. We have already re-stocked the Sapiston with about 1,700 fish and the Little Ouse with 6,000."

Slurry is up to 100 times more potent than raw sewage as a pollutant and is one of the chief causes of farm pollution. Last year, 4,141 incidents of river pollution by farmers were reported, an increase of 6 per cent on 1987. The NRA has predicted a slight decline this year, owing more to the dry weather than better behaviour by farmers.

The fine against Mr Clarke was high was because the case was taken, at the authority's request, to the crown court, which can impose unlimited fines. The maximum fine magistrates can impose is £2,000. They rarely go as high as that and have been accused of being too lenient.

"This was such a serious case that we decided to apply for it to be taken to the crown court. We hope this will serve as a deterrent to other farmers. We are very pleased with the outcome," Mr Dodd said.

Mr Clarke, who pleaded not guilty, had four previous convictions for smaller pollution incidents between January 1982 and June 1986. He said yesterday he could not comment on the case and that he was still taking legal advice on whether to appeal.

Mr Clarke told the court that the slurry lagoon was built in accordance with advice from the Anglian water authorities and that its collapse was not caused by negligence on his part.

Arms cache found

Irish police have made an arms find close to where two British soldiers were killed in an IRA attack last week. They found an RPG rocket, three empty AK47 rifle magazines, a full Armalite rifle magazine and a half pound of Semtex explosive hidden in a ditch near Scotstown in Co Monaghan. The spot was five miles across the border from the checkpoint in Co Fermanagh where two soldiers died in the attack last week in which up to 12 terrorists used two RPG rocket launchers and automatic rifles. Police are investigating a possible link between the find and the attack. Security sources believe the IRA unit was made up of terrorists from Co Fermanagh and Co Monaghan.

Deadly haul

Potatoes dusted with fungicidal powder stolen from a farmer's barn near Ferrybridge, West Yorkshire, could be lethal, especially to children, police warned.

Resort hitch

Cornwall County Council has lodged a "strategic" objection to a £200 million plan by the businessman Mr Peter de Savary to redevelop Hayle in Cornwall as an all-year holiday resort because it goes against the structure plan.

£600,000 gift

Mr Harold Dale, a bachelor, of Buxton, Derbyshire, has left £600,000 in his will to Marie Stopes International, a charity which specializes in family planning schemes in the Third World.

Crash landing

Seven US airmen escaped injury when their helicopter from RAF Woodbridge, Suffolk, ploughed into a field near Shepreth, Cambridgeshire, after an engine malfunction.

Darts flight

Mr Colin Smith, the Falkland Islands darts champion, is flying 16,000 miles to London for the Webster's Yorkshire Bitter British open darts championships next week.

Turkey raid

Raiders fired a drugged dart into a guard dog when they broke into a farm near Tamworth, Staffordshire, and stole £3,000-worth of Christmas turkeys.

Birds taken

More than 50 birds, including parakeets and budgerigars, have been taken in raids on two homes and a pet shop in Weymouth, Dorset. Police believe the thieves are looking for unusual Christmas presents.

Silent vigil

Police and members of the public laid wreaths and held a silent vigil at the spot where PC Gavin Carlton was shot dead after a bank robbery in Coventry a year ago.

Murder hunt

A murder inquiry was launched by police in Leicester after the body of Mrs Irene Voss, aged 49, was found at Trust Fabrications, a factory in the city. She had gone missing from her home on Monday.

Santa lives

Four-fifths of children under 12 believe in Father Christmas, according to a survey by Interactive Research.

H2OW SELL

Have you decided it's time to sell your water shares?

Do it through any branch of Midland, and you can pocket a saving of at least £5 on our commission charge.

Which means it'll only cost you £15.*

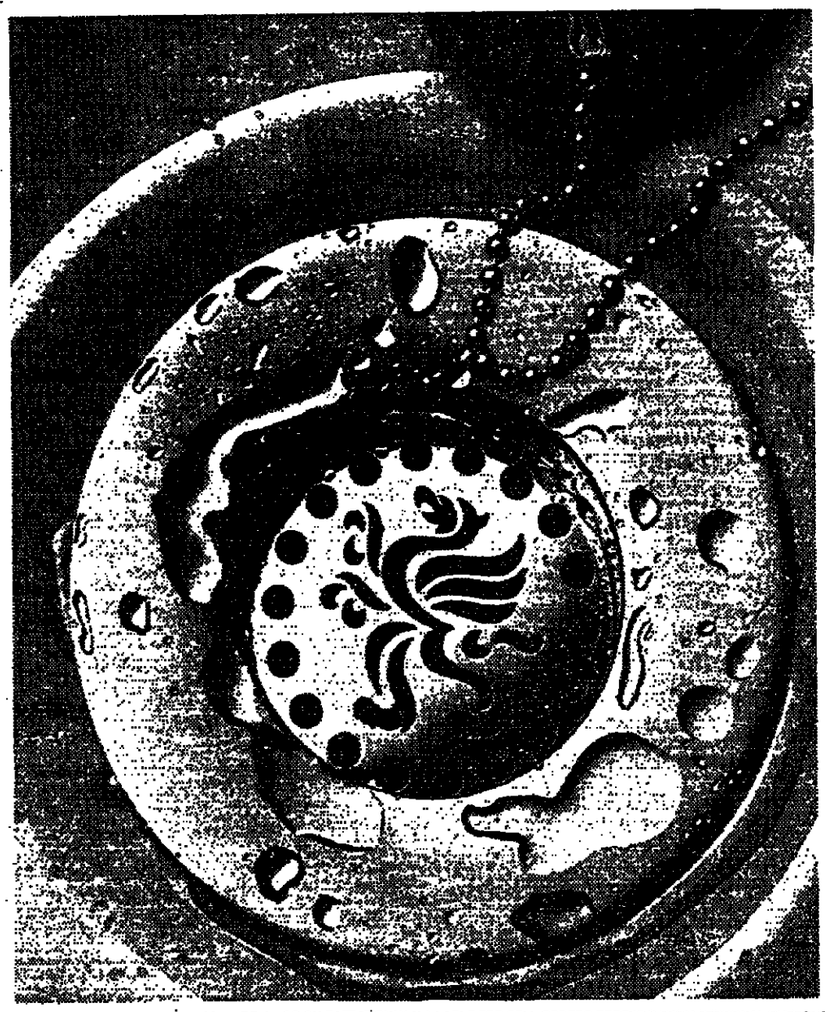
A drop in the ocean, whether you're a big or small investor.

If you're a Midland customer, just bring in your certificates and we'll do the deal for you.

If not, go along to one of our new ShareShops, and we'll sort it out.

For more information just drop into one of our branches.

We've all the details you need. On tap.



MIDLAND
The Listening Bank

*£15 FOR UP TO 4 CERTIFICATES IN THE SAME FAMILY NAME PER WATER AUTHORITY THIS SPECIAL COMMISSION RATE IS ONLY AVAILABLE FOR SELL ORDERS RECEIVED FROM PERSONAL CUSTOMERS BEFORE 31ST JANUARY 1990 VAT IS PAYABLE ON SHARE TRANSACTIONS UNTIL 31ST DECEMBER 1989 MIDLAND BANK plc IS A MEMBER OF IMRO MIDLAND STOCKBROKERS IS A MIDLAND GROUP COMPANY A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL STOCK EXCHANGE AND TSA. F49. © MIDLAND BANK plc 1989

THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Shevardnadze spells out fears on German unity

Peter Guilford, Brussels

Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, has given the most detailed explanation yet of why the Kremlin fears German reunification.

In an important speech to the political committee of the European Parliament here yesterday, Mr Shevardnadze warned that Germany's right to self-determination "can be exercised only in the context of other norms and principles of international law, with due regard for the special position of the two German states and their resonsibility to assure all nations of Europe and the world that a threat of war will never again come from German soil".

The Germans must be allowed to approach the issue of their future free from all outside influence, he said, adding that any appeals or advice "to exercise self-determination", amounted to interference.

Mr Shevardnadze's speech would appear to be a thinly veiled attack on the declaration on Germany made by European Community leaders at the Strasbourg summit 10 days ago.

It is perhaps the clearest statement yet of the Soviet Government's position on German reunification. He listed seven questions which would have to be answered before a single Germany could be acceptable in the Soviet Union's eyes.

The very tone of the questions betrays a suspicion that no satisfactory answer exists other than in the very long term.

● "Where are the political, legal and material guarantees that German unity would not eventually create a threat to the national security of other states and to peace in Europe? There has been no answer to that question."

● Mr Shevardnadze then turned to the ambivalent remarks by Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, about previous German territories in modern-day Poland, wondering if such a "hypothetical Germany" would be ready "to accept the existing borders in Europe and renounce any territorial claims? As we know, the Government of the FDR (Federal Republic of Germany) has avoided answering that question."

● "What would be the place of such a national German entity in the military-political structures existing on our continent? After all, one cannot seriously expect the status of the GDR (German Democratic Republic) to change radically while the status of the FDR would remain the same."

This effectively rules out incorporation of a united Germany in the Western camp.

● A united but unaffiliated Germany was an equally awesome prospect to the Soviet Union, he suggested.

"If such German unity were to take shape, what would be the military potential of such a new entity? . . .

"Will it be ready to accept demilitarization, adopt a neutral status, and restructure fundamentally its economic and other relations with Eastern Europe, as was envisaged in the past?"

● "What would be the attitude to the presence of Allied troops on German soil, to continued functioning of military liaison missions, and to the 1971 four-party agreement?"

● "How would the possible creation of such a German entity fit with the Helsinki process (which defines Europe's post-war borders) and would it promote a constructive evolution of that process in the direction of ending the division of Europe, excluding any discrimination in relations between European states, and further progress towards creating integrated legal, economic, ecological, cultural and information environments in Europe?"

In Soviet eyes, Helsinki solved the borders of Europe "in a definite and irrevocable manner", the Foreign Minister said.

If talks between the two Germanies did not recognize this, they would be meaningless.

He also warned against attempts to change all "legal entities" which guarantee Europe's existing borders. "If one tugs at any single part, one could, inadvertently, ruin the whole structure."

● "If the German states were to express themselves in some form (in favour of) initiating movement towards German unity, would they be ready to take into consideration the interests of other European states and to seek on a collective basis mutually acceptable answers to all questions and problems that might arise in that regard, including the conclusion of a European peace settlement?"



Mr Shevardnadze, right, and Herr Manfred Wörner, Nato's Secretary-General, answering journalists' questions yesterday.

Romanian crackdown

Witnesses describe massacre of children

From Dessa Trevisan, Vatin, on the Yugoslav-Romanian border

Romania has sealed itself off to prevent the truth from being known about brutal action against protesters.

However, the scale of death and destruction from the outburst of popular anger is gradually unfolding, as reports by reliable foreign eye-witnesses put the death toll at more than 400 and speak of a "brutal massacre" of children.

A Yugoslav diplomat said that from his window he saw children being killed. He said that a death toll of 400 was a modest estimate.

A Greek medical student, who with 600 of his compatriots saw the protests and subsequent police brutality, said that when he visited a paediatrics clinic he saw a large number of children in the mortuary. Bullet wounds were visible on their bodies.

The popular revolt which erupted late Saturday was not confined to the Hungarian minority alone.

It later spread to the Romanians when thousands of young people, mainly university students enraged by living conditions in Romania, protested, shouting *"Ceausescu jos"* ("Down with Ceausescu"), and chanting: "We want bread and freedom." Tanks and armoured vehicles went into position guarding public buildings.

At the first shouts against Mr Ceausescu, the police moved in and fired water cannons and machine guns, at first above the heads of the protesters and then straight into the crowd. The Greek student said: "I saw a woman hurling a stone at a tank and then saw her being crushed by the same tank."

One eye-witness said: "They began destroying the town and it looked as if the whole town was at war."

"They say that the police were firing above the heads but how then were so many people, including the children, killed?" the Greek student asked.

Another eye-witness, a Yugoslav, spoke of people screaming and battling with the police and then falling to the pavement. A rainstorm washed the blood away.

By Monday morning, the situation seemed to have calmed down as the debris was being removed. But in the afternoon, new disturbances arose. A lorry driver who was passing through Timisoara on his way to Yugoslavia said that he saw two huge blazes of fire. The Greek student said that the protesters had set fire to a furniture factory late on Monday.

President Ceausescu of Romania and President Rafsanjani of Iran yesterday boasted of their regimes' stability and swore that the difficulties they were encountering were the work of imperialism and Satan respectively (Hazhir Teimourian writes). Iranian leaders ordered their media to keep silent on the reported masssacre at Timisoara during the state visit, whose main purpose is to increase trade.

Timisoara is surrounded by tanks and the centre of the town is full of military vehicles guarding buildings and the police headquarters. A curfew operates between 7pm and 8am.

The crowd, in an outburst of rage, stormed buildings inhabited by the security police, smashing and ransacking their apartments.

All roads leading in and out of the town are controlled by the Army and police. Foreigners who have been stranded there for three days are gradually being permitted to leave the country, but no-one is allowed in.

The Romanian railways have told the Yugoslav railways that no private passengers will be allowed in.

On the Bulgarian border, trainloads of East European tourists have been turned back. Soviet tourists motoring back to their country were barred transit passage and told to divert to the Yugoslav-Hungarian frontier.

There is a strict blackout of the uprising in the media, with not a word of it being reported either on Bucharest radio or television. Instead, they are concentrating on President Ceausescu's visit to Iran, one of the very few countries where he is still a welcome guest.

People are being warned to abide by laws and threatened with "consequences" should they resist or violate regulations.

On the streets of the capital, police reinforced by the "patriotic guard", are on patrol. Army and police patrols are a normal sight, but since the disturbances in Timisoara the patrols have been reinforced to groups of four, armed with rifles.

A Yugoslav news agency described the mood in the capital as one of "restless calm", as fears mounted that students in the south might hold sympathy strikes.

Poland joins the West in condemning suppression

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor, Martin Fletcher in Washington and Peter Guilford in Brussels

Romania stood condemned yesterday as the West, joined by Poland, voiced its outrage at the brutal killings of protesters in Timisoara, while Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, expressed profound regret.

Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said in Brussels that Britain shared the "horror and despair" with the rest of the European Community. Demonstrations had been "ruthlessly suppressed".

The 12 condemned Bucharest "in the strongest terms" and threatened to take "appropriate measures", a hint that trade sanctions were under consideration.

"The ministers of foreign affairs of the Twelve are deeply dismayed by the news of the Romanian authorities' violent and brutal repression of popular demonstrations," a statement said.

The United States yesterday also strongly condemned the Romanian Government's "brutal" suppression of protesters, said it was consulting its European allies about a co-ordinated response, and called for an immediate end to the violence and for the opening of Romania's borders.

Claiming that "dozens and perhaps hundreds" of demonstrators had been killed, Mr Marlin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, said the US "condemns the brutal use of police force by the Romanian government against protesters in Timisoara and other cities".

The demonstrations were the result of "a systematic denial of human rights to the people of Romania, particularly to members of the Hungarian minority", he said.

Six months ago the EC expressed severe disapproval of the Bucharest regime by suspending negotiations on an economic co-operation agreement. The statement said the EC reserved the right "to adopt the appropriate measures in the light of developments in the situation in that country". This implied that the next step could be trade barriers.

Mr Waldegrave said in a BBC radio interview: "The days of this regime are numbered and anything we can do from outside to speed its collapse is right for us to do."

In London the Foreign Office summoned Mr Stan Soare, the Romanian Ambassador, and delivered a strong protest. "It now seems clear that they (the Romanian authorities) violently suppressed a peaceful demonstration," a spokesman said.

"We condemn this in the strongest possible terms. We urgently call upon the Romanian Government to end their policies of repression and allow their citizens the freedom to exercise their fundamental human rights."

Mr David Ratford, Undersecretary for Eastern Europe, told Mr Soare that Romania had broken its human rights commitments under the Helsinki and Vienna agreements. But the Ambassador gave no ground.

"He resorted to tired old formulae about interference in Romania's internal affairs and suggested it was a media campaign," the spokesman said.

Mr Shevardnadze said he had "preliminary information about unpleasant things that have happened in Romania".

"If indeed there has been such a loss of life, I wish to express my very, very profound regret," he said in Brussels after visiting Nato headquarters.

The Polish lower house of Parliament, the Sejm, adopted a resolution of protest. "The number of victims is not known yet, but there is no doubt that the (Romanian) authorities used force with exceptional brutality. Even children were the targets of shooting," it said. It was passed by 294 to 0, with Communist deputies joining in.

Mr Lech Walesa, chairman of Solidarity, responded to a letter he received on Friday from the Reverend Laszlo Tokes, the Hungarian Reformed Church priest whose eviction from his home touched off the Timisoara demonstrations. Mr Walesa wrote: "I appeal to all people . . . to take up a common action in defence of clergyman Tokes, to express solidarity by exercising international pressure on (the) Romanian authorities."

In Japan, Mr Taizo Watanabe, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, said the Government was "seriously concerned".

Four international church groups, including the World Council of Churches, sent a message to Mr Constantin Dascalescu, the Prime Minister of Romania, saying they were "deeply disturbed by the disquieting intervention of the army against civilian people".

Demonstrations spread in Transylvania

From Ernest Beck, Nagylak, Hungarian-Romanian Border

Anti-government protests spread yesterday to at least two other cities in Romania's Transylvania region, despite the massive military crackdown by security forces after Sunday's massacre of pro-democracy demonstators in the city of Timisoara.

Although Romania's tightly controlled media maintained an official silence, reports from travellers reaching this border town said that people had also taken to the streets in the cities of Cluj and Oradea in the past 48 hours.

The Army, joined by police and the Workers' Militia, were said to be reinforcing their positions throughout Transylvania, the northwest province which is home to the country's ethnic Hungarian minority, with the Army assuming command of the operation.

There were reports of house-to-house searches in Timisoara, which was under night curfew, as security forces searched for protesters. A young Lebanese man who was there all last week, and who crossed into Hungary yesterday, said the city was virtually under siege.

Tanks ringed the outskirts and armed patrols stopped people on the streets at random, occasionally beating them with truncheons if they refused to answer questions or present identification papers.

He said shooting could be heard through the night, and food supplies, already meagre, were running low as shops which were broken into during the clashes remained closed.

The city of 300,000, he said, "looked like Beirut" with burnt-out police cars and buses littering the streets and many buildings in the city centre destroyed.

Nevertheless, small groups of young people were defying the soldiers and walking through the street at dusk, encouraged by residents who shouted encouragement from their windows.

He described the mood as tense and at the same time optimistic, but he said many people were worried about the Reverend Laszlo Tokes, the dissident priest and human-rights campaigner whose planned deportation led to the weekend demonstration. The whereabouts of the pastor and his family remain unknown.

Reports suggest that the number of dead and wounded is high, ranging from several dozen to 500 dead, although exact figures are not available. Hungarian radio said it had contacted one hospital in Timisoara which reported 50 dead and 160 wounded.

The witness said he had helped bring a 12-year-old girl, shot in the side by police, to a hospital which was overflowing with patients.

But, even in death, the relentless repression by a sustained security apparatus continues. Police refused to release the bodies to grieving relatives who came to the hospital morgue to claim them.

It is assumed they are being kept for identification so the police can later harass their families.

It was difficult to determine the extent of demonstrations in the other two cities in Transylvania, but reports say that word of what happened in Timisoara is travelling quickly through the region. A Hungarian who crossed the border here after driving directly from Bucharest said the capital was quiet and no mention of the unrest had been made on radio or television.

Instead, Romanians learned of President Ceausescu's trip to Tehran and a radio programme monitored near the border in Hungary described an increase in factory productivity.

Transylvania's proximity to Hungary and Yugoslavia, and the population's understanding of several languages, has helped to spread word of the massacre and could fuel an upsurge in anti-government feelings in Bucharest.

Hungarian radio reports claimed that Romanians and ethnic Hungarians were joining together in the protest, but this could not be reliably confirmed. Romania's borders remain virtually sealed shut.



Troops moved swiftly to isolate Timisoara unrest

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The murderous attacks on demonstrators in Timisoara by the Romanian security authorities followed a classic pattern of repression.

It is clear to Western experts that the purpose of the operation was to isolate the trouble and to ensure that the protests did not spread to other parts of the country.

The key element was the use of helicopters by the armed forces. According to Dr Jonathan Eyal, a Romanian expert at the London-based Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies, President Ceausescu must have given orders that helicopter-borne troops should be deployed to clear the area, before he left for his visit to Iran. The deployment of such mobile troops was proof that the repression was well planned, Dr Eyal said.

The shootings were carried out by the Romanian armed forces but the operation would have been planned by the Securitate, the secret police.

The Romanian Army consists of 128,000 men, 95,000 of whom are conscripts. They are poorly trained, badly equipped, and regarded, at least in the West, as an insignificant fighting force. "They're definitely Third XI," one military source said.

President Ceausescu uses them for digging trenches and building roads and railways. "They're cheap labour, but they're fine for sending in to shoot people and break up crowds," Dr Eyal said.

The key personnel in the repression would have been two senior figures who between them have more than 14 years' experience in the Securitate, the equivalent of the KGB.

This well-trained and highly privileged force of about 20,000 is commanded by Colonel-General Iulian Vlad, who was appointed in October 1987. He is directly responsible to Mr Tudor Postelnicu, the Interior Minister, himself a former commander of Securitate.

But Colonel-General Vlad is also closely associated with Mrs Elena Ceausescu, the President's wife, who has been left in charge while her husband is away.

Apart from the Securitate, the Interior Ministry forces consist of the militia, the traffic police and the 20,000 para-military border guards, who were transferred to the Interior Ministry's forces only a few days ago.

Dr Eyal believes this transfer was ordered by President Ceausescu to ensure that they were not included in the Conventional Forces in Europe talks in Vienna.

There is one other key force which may have played a role in the violent repression — a 2,000-strong unit built up by President Ceausescu as his personal, crack guard.

The security forces have so far been loyal to President Ceausescu. However, with political loyalties in Eastern Europe changing so dramatically, President Ceausescu's obsession with personal security has become even more evident. Whenever he travels outside his palace, all the streets are cleared.

Ceausescu holds the economic trump card

By Tom Giles

The cruellest irony of the years of repression, austerity and deprivation under President Ceausescu is that they have provided Romania's ageing tyrant with a trump card.

His policy of depriving Romanians of all but the most basic of foodstuffs and consumer goods by slashing imports and repaying debts to the West, has left the country, according to most recent estimates, with a trade surplus of $2.6 billion (£1.6 billion).

The man who once courted Western investment and gained his country "Most Favoured Nation" status from the then US President Gerald Ford, through his repeated snubs to Soviet foreign policy, now seeks with equal vigour to curtail economic dependency on the West.

According to Mr David Young of the *Economist Intelligence Unit*, Romania reduced the level of Western imports from $3.9 billion in 1980 to $1.4 billion in 1984. Since then import levels from OECD countries have remained at the same subsistence levels.

At the same time, according to Mr Alan Smith, a lecturer in economics at the University of London's School of Slavonic and East European Studies, Romania has succeeded in repaying virtually all of its $10 billion debt to the West well ahead of schedule.

Unlike the other regimes and repressive political systems that have been swept so dramatically from power across Eastern Europe, Romania alone is a creditor with net assets.

While it still owes an estimated $350 million to Western commercial banks, Bucharest has assets of nearly $1 billion and it has repaid all its debts to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

In the 1970s Mr Ceausescu borrowed willingly from the West to build up his industry. His plans for economic expansion backfired. Between 1976 and 1980, the petrochemical industry overexpanded, leaving Romania heavily reliant on oil imported from the Middle East.

After the disastrous 1977 earthquake, which destroyed much of the fabric of Romanian industry, and oil price increases in 1979, Romania was faced with having to pay $4 billion for imported crude. By the end of 1981 Romania had a debt of $10.2 billion.

In 1982, after extensive negotiations with the International Monetary Fund the previous year, Bucharest then ran out of Western creditors.

President Ceausescu hardly hesitated in announcing his solution. Romania was to pay back all foreign debts by slashing Western imports and sustaining exports to Comecon countries.

Today some 60 per cent of Romania's trade is with Comecon countries. The Soviet Union, under President Gorbachov, has shored up Mr Ceausescu's schemes with a steady flow of Soviet crude oil, paid for with Romanian goods, too shoddy to sell elsewhere.

The Soviet Union now buys nearly a quarter of Romanian exports, mainly petroleum products, furniture and clothing.

After Comecon countries, 1985 Romanian estimates put West Germany and Italy as their next highest traders, accounting for 7.5 per cent of exports.

Despite the ending of its Most Favoured Nation status in July 1988, Romania has continued to defy world economic pressure. As cheap imports from the Soviet Union continue, coupled with relatively high levels of investment from Iran, Egypt and Syria, President Ceausescu has more money than the West would like.

According to Mr Young, he may even choose to alleviate some of the hardships of his people with his surplus reserves, and future sanctions imposed by the EC may miss their mark.

'No snow' stops ski holiday

More than 10,000 British tourists who have booked skiing holidays in Romania this winter will probably be forced to cancel because of upheaval in the country (Mark Souster writes).

At least 500, due to fly out on Saturday, have been given refunds or switched to other destinations in Europe after Romania closed its borders.

A spokesman for the Romanian Airline, Tarom, in London, said about 10,000 British tourists had been due to travel to the country. "Operators have been told there is no snow."

The Romanian National Tourist Office in London yesterday advised operators that all holidays should be cancelled until January 5 because of "the lack of snow and an earlier than usual start to school holidays." The situation would be then be reassessed.

No mention was made of the reported massacre of demonstrators in Timisoara. None of the major operators said they had clients in Romania but the Foreign Office said last night that an unspecified number of British tourists were in Romania on top of the 36 businessmen who work in the country. So far, those wishing to leave have done so without difficulty.

THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Archbishop from another age shapes the future

From Anatol Lieven, Prague

For Frantisek Cardinal Tomasek, Prince of the Church, Archbishop of Prague and Primate of Czechoslovakia, 40 years of Communist rule have been an unpleasant interlude in a life that began 90 years ago under the rule of Emperor Franz Joseph and has spanned five political systems in his country.

His stocky, peasant-like figure is an appropriate symbol of a church which has survived time, change and oppression while the shoddy, temporary monuments of communism disintegrated before his eyes.

He shows few signs of his considerable age — having been invigorated, perhaps, by the events of the past month.

The Cardinal, at his palace in Prague — outwardly still splendid but shabby inside after 40 years' neglect — rejoiced yesterday.

"We can now speak freely," he said.

He welcomed most the fact that the church will now be free of the state harassment that kept more than half of its bishoprics unoccupied for several decades.

The church in the Czechoslovakia of the future, he said, would vigorously engage itself in democracy, preaching the duties of the Christian and the citizen. Of his priests, such as Vaclav Mali and Otto Madr, who have been involved in campaigns for human rights, he said: "Their spiritual activities and their duties as citizens have always been bound together."

Cardinal Tomasek was born in 1899 in Moravia, the grandson of peasants, and fought against Germany in the Habsburg Imperial Army and in the Royal Army during the First World War.

Ordained in 1922, he taught at a seminary in the first Czechoslovak republic before the Nazi invasion of 1939.

Ten years later, after the Communists seized power, he was made a bishop without state approval, which earned him three years in a labour camp. He was released after Stalin's death.

In his years as leader of the Czechoslovak church he has often been well ahead of his more cautious bishops and senior advisers in defending the rights of the church and in giving moral support to Catholics active in the opposition.

When the Cardinal was given his chance last month to strike at last against the church's enemies, he struck hard. On November 24, protesting against government claims that he had entered into a dialogue with the regime he declared:



JAMES MORGAN

Cardinal Tomasek: in the forefront of opposition to communist rule in Czechoslovakia, and now preparing for new battles.

"I insist on my message to the people of Czechoslovakia: the church stands entirely on the side of the people in the present struggle.

"I thank all those who are fighting for the good of us all, and I trust completely the Civil Forum which has become a spokesman for the nation."

Last week, in an even more striking departure from the supposed rule on the church's distance from politics, the Cardinal declared his allegiance in Czechoslovakia's presidential race.

He declared himself for Mr Vaclav Havel "so he can continue his message of truth and love".

He said he had supported Mr Havel against Mr Alexander Dubcek, the former leader deposed after the Warsaw Pact invasion of 1968, because Mr Dubcek, only 23 years younger than the Cardinal, comes from the older Communist generation and is therefore "a man of the past".

The Cardinal himself is in some sense so wholly a man of the past as to be ageless, attached to eternal Catholic principles — one of which is the church's ability and right to exercise political influence. He grew up in an era when it was taken for granted that priests played a leading part in electoral politics.

The impact of the Cardinal's words in the past month are difficult to assess. Some Czechoslovaks think that with the collapse of the Communist old guard there will be a great movement back to the church.

However, the church here does not have the 150-year-old tradition of resistance possessed by Polish Catholics, and levels of belief and practice are low in the main cities.

The political importance of the church may lie in the fact that it remains strong in those rural areas where the impact of Civil Forum has so far been weak, and where there is suspicion of Mr Havel, who is seen as a "bourgeois intellectual". Many non-Catholic Czechoslovaks say that the Cardinal's words have helped to reduce conservative attachment to the old regime.

This may be especially important in rural Slovakia, with its strong traditions of Catholicism and of resentment and rule by the Czechs of Prague.

Fears have been expressed that Slovak support for Mr Dubcek, a Slovak, could reflect a possible growth of national tensions.

The participation of Slovak Catholics in an unprecedented pilgrimage to Rome in October to celebrate the canonization of St Agnes is said to have an effect in drawing them into the opposition.

A Catholic priest in Olomouc said he thought the Cardinal's speaking for the nation had a great historical meaning: that it finally healed a national wound opened when the Catholic Church helped the Habsburgs to subjugate Bohemia in the sixteenth century.

It may seem highly unusual that a political act could have direct connections with something that happened 360 years ago — but it does not seem nearly so strange when one has met the old Archbishop.

Prime Minister adds his voice to Havel campaign

From Anatol Lieven, Prague

Mr Marian Calfa, the Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, introduced his Government's programme in Parliament by declaring his support for Mr Vaclav Havel, the Civil Forum leader, as President.

He has been joined in this by one of Mr Havel's rivals for the post, Mr Cestmir Cisar, and the leaders of the People's and Socialist Parties.

As Parliament met yesterday to debate the presidency, thousands of students from all over the country demonstrated outside, calling on the Communist majority of deputies to elect Mr Havel and then resign.

The main questions now hanging over the presidency are the level of support for the candidacy of Mr Alexander Dubcek, the former leader, in his native Slovakia, and the attitude of the Communist deputies.

A majority of these have been calling for the President to be directly elected by the people, a demand which Civil Forum has rejected on the grounds that it would mean a fundamental constitutional change for what is a temporary post, until free parliamentary elections are held next year. Mr Cisar and the spokesmen for the People's and Socialist Parties also opposed the Communist demand.

Mr Calfa supported the Civil Forum proposal that Parliament should elect the President by open, not secret, ballot and said that the election period should be extended from 14 to 40 days. It is thought that unless Parliament brings about this last change, Czechoslovakia will shortly be in a constitutional crisis.

Mr Calfa said that after the preparation of free parliamentary elections, economic reform was the most important task of his Government. He said that Czechoslovakia should not experiment with new economic systems, but should institute a market economy with all its advantages and disadvantages.

Mr Calfa also called for an end to uneconomic loans to certain Third World countries — in other words, subsidized supporters of the Soviet Union, such as Ethiopia. Individual Communist deputies attacked the "imbalance" between the presence of 12 Czechs and seven Slovaks in the Government, and asked about job security for miners, many of whom fear the loss of jobs as a result of economic reform.

One deputy asked Mr Jiri Dienstbier, the new Foreign Minister, about his response to calls from "some West German politicians" for Czechoslovakia to apologize officially for expelling three million Germans after the Second World War.

The Communist Party is meeting today in an extraordinary congress, and Czechoslovakia awaits its outcome with suspense. For several days the party has seemed incapable of taking any concerted line.

As Mr Loubos Dobrovsky, the Civil Forum spokesman, said on Monday: "In view of the fact that the situation in the Communist Party is unclear and the club of Communist deputies is out of control, it will probably be necessary to postpone the taking of any new decisions until the party congress has run its course."

In a reference to the fact that the party Politburo rejected an agreement over the presidency, which was apparently reached last week by its "representative", Mr Vasil Mohorita, with the Forum, Mr Dobrovsky said: "It is difficult to know who is in fact entitled to represent the Communists."

Mr Mohorita is expected to be the main challenger to Mr Karel Urbanek, the General Secretary. Mr Urbanek succeeded Mr Milos Jakes, the disgraced leader, less than a month ago, but is considered neither a reformist nor an effective personality.

Mr Mohorita has made strenuous efforts to establish himself as the party's leading reformer, but these efforts are so belated that many see them as opportunism.

Representatives of the main reformist Communist group, the Forum of Democratic Communists, have confirmed that they will vote against Mr Urbanek as leader, but have not said who they will support.

Observers say that in view of how the majority of leading figures have been compromised by their places in the old regime, the next leader may prove to be someone hitherto unknown.

Polish loan delayed

Warsaw (Reuter) — Poland, seeking huge amounts of Western aid to aid its conversion to a free market economy, yesterday unexpectedly delayed signing a crucial loan deal with International Monetary Fund negotiators, and they flew back to Washington. Polish officials said the text of a Polish letter of intent to clinch a £452 million IMF stand-by loan had been agreed, but both sides believed more consultations among themselves were needed before signing.

Pay rise rally

Sofia — The first signs of unrest over Bulgaria's deteriorating economy surfaced when 500 dental technicians staged a rally in Plovdiv to demand a 100 per cent pay rise, shorter working week and more holidays.

Plan approved

Moscow — The Congress of People's Deputies (parliament) finally approved the Government's proposed economic programme after several days of wrangling. Members urged the Supreme Soviet to speed up its work.

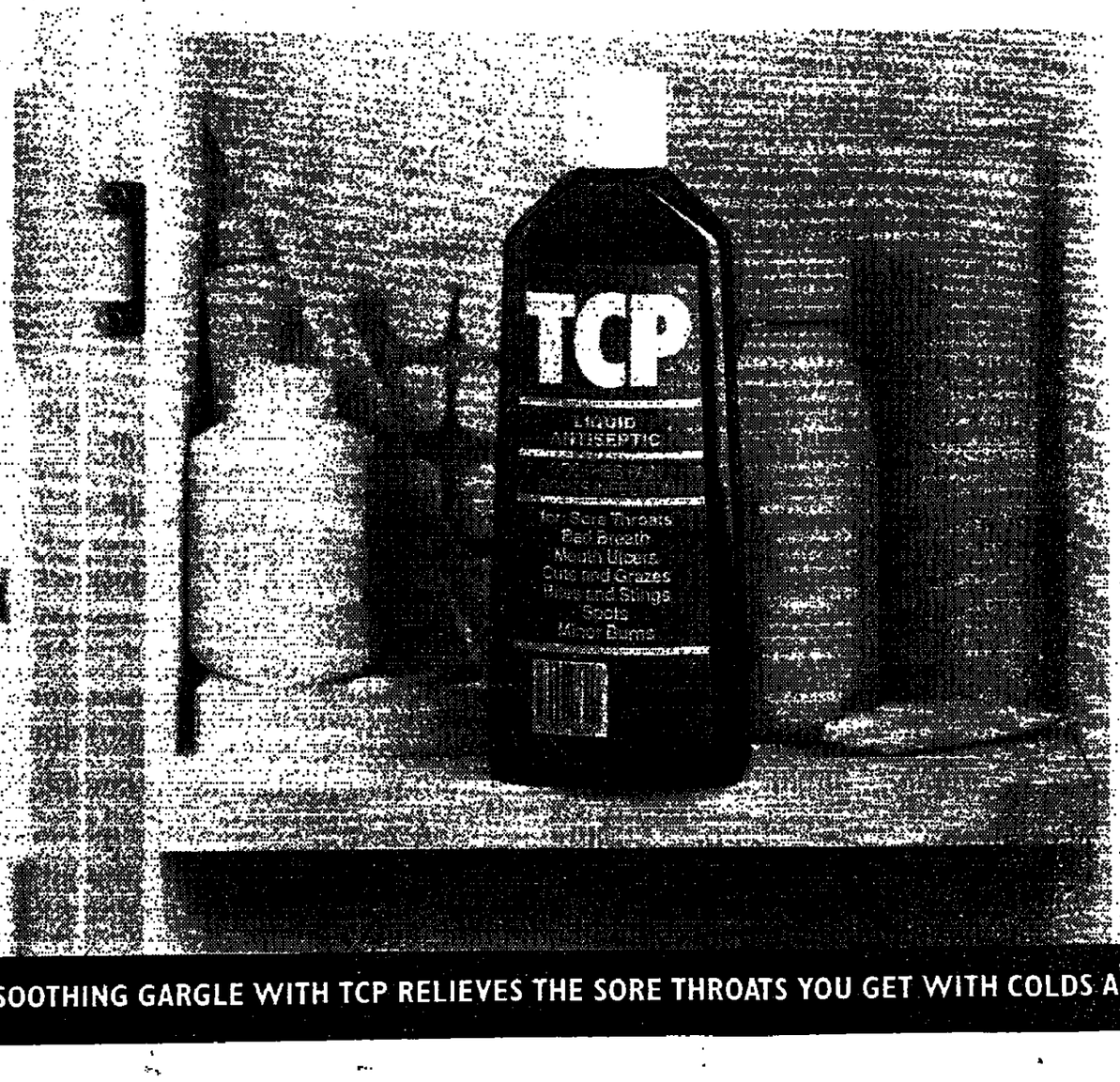
Recovery blow

Belgrade (Reuter) — Yugoslavia's efforts to emerge from economic crisis received a blow when Serbia, the largest republic, and the province of Vojvodina rejected an emergency recovery plan prepared by the federal Government.

Report denied

Vienna (AP) — Albania has condemned as a "fabrication" a report in *Politika Ekspres*, the Yugoslav daily newspaper, about an alleged demonstration in the Albanian city of Shkoder, near the Yugoslav border.

FLU EPIDEMIC LEADS TO CABINET RESHUFFLE.



*TCP is a registered Trademark

A SOOTHING GARGLE WITH TCP RELIEVES THE SORE THROATS YOU GET WITH COLDS AND FLU.

Jordan abolishes martial law as era of reform quickens

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

Political reform in Jordan accelerated yesterday when Mr Mudar Badran, the Prime Minister and a former intelligence chief, told the newly elected Parliament that martial law was being lifted after 22 years and emergency courts abolished.

The pledge, accompanied by sweeping new measures to prevent official corruption, followed last month's watershed general election, the freest yet in the Arab world. It is likely to further increase demands for East European-style liberalization, already gaining momentum in other Arab states.

Seeking a vote of confidence from the 80-seat legislature, Mr Badran surprised deputies by meeting one of the main opposition demands when he declared: "I announce to this Parliament that martial law is now considered frozen ... until such laws are constitutionally abolished in the near future."

The latest reforms will weaken official control over freedom of expression. Under martial law imposed after the 1967 Middle East war, large public meetings were forbidden and the Government had the power to shut newspapers at any time. It also had the right to detain political prisoners.

The Prime Minister, an appointee of King Husain, used his speech to seek Parliament's help in drawing up a charter of principles to legalize political parties, banned since a failed left-wing coup attempt in 1957.

His speech was more liberal in tone than many diplomats had expected. It followed a string of reforms which came in the wake of the November 8 poll in which Muslim fundamentalist candidates made widespread gains.

On December 10, Mr Badran announced the return of an estimated 8,700 passports confiscated from those whose political views were disapproved of and then the reversal of a 1988 decree nationalizing all Jordanian newspapers.

Yesterday, Mr Badran responded to anger about official corruption, regarded as a factor behind last April's riots, by promising legislation to force senior government officials to disclose their property and that of close relatives.

To cheers from the packed public galleries, the Prime Minister stated that the disclosure would be made to a "certain authority to be named by the law" but did not say whether it would be public.

His declaration came after the resignation or departure abroad of a number of leading figures who were involved in a series of scandals.



Mr Mudar Badran: Trying to keep promises of reform.

After the speech, government officials said the security forces had been asked for details of some 60 political or security prisoners sentenced in military courts, in preparation for possible pardon. In a recent amnesty, 48 political prisoners were freed.

The Prime Minister told Parliament that he would set up a new constitutional court and annul legal texts that prevented Jordanian citizens from appealing in the courts against government orders. Immunity was also to be lifted from government officials.

The sudden spurt of reform is seen by Western observers as a shrewd move by the Hashemite monarchy to defuse popular discontent and improve its ruling position.

King Husain is known to have been paying close attention to recent developments in Eastern Europe and to have been angered that his intelligence services did not provide prior warning of the discontent which erupted on the streets last April.

Since the November Jordanian election, there have been signs that it is encouraging an appetite for similar openness in other Arab countries, notably Egypt, where emergency laws introduced in 1981 have been used this year to arrest more than 3,500 suspected Islamic extremists and those on the far left.

Semi-official Egyptian newspapers were accused of failing to give proper coverage to the Jordanian election campaign which made a mockery of the stage-managed general elections carried out here.

Panama accuses US of aggression



Armed with an AK-47 assault rifle and wearing civilian clothes, a member of Panama's élite Machos del Monte company patrolling on the back of a lorry near the headquarters of the Panama Defence Forces in Panama City on Monday. The lorry's armaments include a mounted general-purpose machine-gun and rocket-propelled grenades. Meanwhile, after the shooting of a Panamanian traffic policeman by a US serviceman, the Panamanian military has accused Washington of further aggression (Susan Ellicott writes from Washington). On Monday America accused General Manuel Noriega, Panama's *de facto* ruler, of creating a pattern of harassment against the US Southern Command, which is based in Panama. America claims that Panamanian troops last week shot dead an off-duty American officer. President Bush condemned the killing as "an enormous outrage", but has so far refused to discuss possible US responses. Last Friday Panama declared that it considered itself to be in a state of war with the US.

Justice close for widows in India

From Christopher Thomas
Delhi

Thousands of Sikh women and children living in a destitute "widows' colony" called Tilak Vihar, in west Delhi, are celebrating. After waiting five years to avenge the slaughter of 3,000 young husbands and fathers by Hindu mobs, they believe there will be justice.

The new Government of Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the Prime Minister, has raised expectations so high he dare not disappoint these angry people whose search for justice was blocked by Mr Rajiv Gandhi's administration.

Children have grown up with the names on their lips of hated politicians who allegedly incited mobs to kill Sikhs the night after Mrs Indira Gandhi, then the Prime Minister, was murdered. Two of them were ministers in the last government.

Mr Singh, attempting to step into the Punjab minefield while he enjoys so much political goodwill, has handed out a policy directive that the guilty must be dealt with.

The new approach was endorsed in a resolution by an all-party conference summoned last weekend by the Government to explore solutions to the Punjab crisis. Mr Gandhi's Congress (I) party, however, would have nothing to do with the resolution.

Mr Singh's Government might find itself thwarted by powerful interests as it tries to bring known killers to book. The police, for one, have never shown any inclination to act. Sikh leaders have presented judges with affidavits from widows, giving eyewitness accounts and the names of people who they say killed their husbands. Not one case has been prosecuted.

WORLD ROUNDUP

US ignored risks from radiation

Washington — The US Government knew that thousands of workers at nuclear weapons plants were being exposed to unacceptable levels of radiation during the late 1940s and early 1950s, but said nothing, a new Congressional study alleges (Martin Fletcher writes). One plutonium-producing plant, Hanford in Washington State, emitted high levels of radioactivity into the atmosphere, but employees and local residents were not warned, according to government documents quoted in the study by the Senate Governmental Affairs committee.

Workers in one year or less the equivalent of a lifetime's maximum radiation dose. The study is the latest in a series of revelations about lax safety precautions at 17 nuclear weapons plants. The cost of cleaning up decades of neglect is estimated at well over $100 billion.

FBI finds bomb link

Savannah, Georgia (AP) — A lawyer has been killed in his office by a mail bomb and a similar bomb in a small brown package was removed safely from the US Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, two days after a postal bomb killed Judge Robert Vance near Birmingham, Alabama. The FBI said there were "strong similarities" among the three bombs and there was a "definite possibility" that white supremacists were involved. There also was a link to an August teargas bombing of the regional headquarters in Atlanta of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People. Mr Robert Robinson, aged 42, a black civil rights activist, lawyer and city alderman in Savannah, died of his injuries on Monday while undergoing surgery.

Poster war on gang

Madrid — Spanish police launched a nationwide poster campaign yesterday in an effort to capture six members of a long dormant ultra-left urban guerrilla group believed to be behind a string of attacks in Madrid, Valencia and Barcelona (Juan Carlos Gumucio writes). Anti-terrorism officials were evidently startled by the striking efficiency of the "October 1st Anti-Fascist Revolutionary Group" better known by its Spanish acronym of Grapo, which was largely dismantled in 1985 after killing at least 56 people. The organization has been accused of three attacks in one week, including the assassination of a 31-year-old Barcelona policeman on Monday. Two army officers have been seriously wounded in street ambushes in Madrid and Valencia since December 13.

Aquino's new powers



Manila (AFP) — The Philippine Congress yesterday passed an Act allowing President Aquino, left, to use emergency powers for six months to stabilize the country after the recent coup attempt, officials said. It included the seizure of hoarded food, the setting of price ceilings and confiscation of military equipment held by unauthorized people, after reports that civilians had looted arms.

Plea for cut in flights

Frankfurt (AP) — West German officials yesterday demanded a big reduction of military training flights over densely populated areas after the collision of two US Air Force F-16s spread debris and training ammunition over a wide area. Monday's in-flight collision, which occurred near the central West German city of Ludwigshafen, killed First Lieutenant Steven Sundstrom, aged 29, of Fort Bragg, California, according to Captain Paula Kougeas, an Air Force spokesman. The other F-16 pilot, Major Roderick Kallman, 36, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, received injuries after ejecting.

Life for tourist's killer

Hamilton (AP) — A 20-year-old man was sentenced yesterday to life imprisonment for the murder in New Zealand on November 20 of Monica Cantwell, an English tourist. Charles John Coulam pleaded guilty in Tauranga District to killing Cantwell, who had arrived in New Zealand just 10 days before her death. A post-mortem examination showed that she died of asphyxiation, caused by strangulation. She also suffered head injuries and there was evidence of a sexual attack, the court heard.

Suspicions of the mysterious Mr Guo

Chinese warning to Hong Kong 'power seekers'

From Catherine Sampson
Peking

In celebration of the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Sino-British Joint Declaration on Hong Kong, China yesterday published a diatribe against critics of the Basic Law for "trying to bring the Chinese Government to its knees".

The lengthy article, calling itself a "message to Hong Kong compatriots", was published by the *People's Daily*, the *China Daily* and the official news agency, Xinhua. Clearly a high-level statement, it was signed "Guo Gang", but no editor was able to say who the mysterious Mr Guo was.

The author accused those who want to accelerate the process of Hong Kong's democratization of "playing once again the card of the 'people's will'...

"This cannot but arouse our suspicions that these people are actually seeking, under the pretext of 'democracy', to establish a power pattern in Hong Kong after 1997 that will confront the central government."

The British Government and activists in Hong Kong are calling for a larger number of democratically elected government posts, and in a shorter time-span than the Basic Law — which was drawn up by China with limited consultation in Hong Kong — provides for. Calls for international political participation in the future of Hong Kong because it is an international trading centre were condemned as "hegemony and power politics".

Essentially, said the article, those who wanted a say in Hong Kong's future "want to muster anti-communism and anti-China forces in the world in order to thwart China's resumption of the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong."

On the subject of the Hong Kong media and freedom of speech, there was a thinly veiled threat of intervention from Peking. If "unsuitable means are adopted to express one's own viewpoints ... damage might be brought upon the friendly relationship between the mainland and Hong Kong," said the author.

He raged once more against Hong Kong being used as a base for "subversion", accusing "certain people" of wanting to overthrow the Peking Government, of slandering China's leaders, and of taking part in the anti-government protests of the summer.

British diplomats were not willing to comment on the diatribe, but noted that the article had mentioned the positive aspects of Sino-British co-operation. One paragraph on the high points of co-operation over the Joint Declaration appeared in the *People's Daily*, but not in the *China Daily*. But clearly reflected in Mr Guo's comments, China feels Britain has not been acting in an entirely gentlemanly fashion.

"Currently, Sino-British relations are abnormal, and responsibility does not lie with the Chinese . .. China is a polite country and pays attention to courteous reciprocity," he said.

The "one-country, two-systems policy does not mean that Hong Kong was an independent or semi-independent political entity".

If Peking relinquished all power over Hong Kong after 1997, "chaos that is detrimental to the fundamental national interests as well as Hong Kong's interests would probably erupt".

Boycotts by boat people fuel simmering tension

From Jonathan Braude, Hong Kong

Vietnamese boat people are refusing to come forward when summoned to interviews with Hong Kong immigration officials charged with determining whether they are genuine political refugees eligible for resettlement in the West or "economic migrants" who must be sent back to Vietnam.

Since the controversial deportation of 51 boat people to Vietnam last week, inmates in at least two Hong Kong detention centres, Hei Ling Chau and Whitehead, have been boycotting screening interviews to concentrate on peaceful demonstrations against forced repatriation.

However, an immigration official claimed they would soon tire of demonstrating and chanting slogans and screening would get back to normal.

Yet the protests have continued every day for the past week, as thousands of Vietnamese have marched or staged sit-ins in camps around the territory.

Although all the demonstrations have been peaceful so far, camp staff say the mood could change at any time and violence could erupt.

Mr Francis Wong, acting assistant Commissioner (Refugees) at the Correctional Services Department, whose staff look after about 35,000 boat people and refugees said: "I cannot say I am not frightened. This won't get better, it will get worse," he added, claiming his men might not be able to cope.

There were hints of more serious trouble to come at the weekend, when correctional services staff seized a cache of home-made weapons from Vietnamese in the Whitehead Centre, where officers had earlier been threatened and forced to withdraw.

Meanwhile, Mr Robert Van Leeuwen, head of the mission for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Hong Kong, repeated his warning that the repatriation of 51 boat people, mainly women and children, would be unlikely to stop new arrivals during the sailing season next spring, and said that there might be "serious violence" if the Government attempted to move any more people out of the detention centres for deportation.

He claimed the best way to dissuade people from leaving Vietnam was voluntary repatriation.

"I believe that the best message to Vietnam is carried back by those who volunteer to go back, because they can be asked why they made that decision and they can explain why they made that decision.

"Those who are returned under the mandatory repatriation programme, what are they going to say? 'We were forced to go back,' and the story ends there," he said.

● **DELHI:** India and Hong Kong have started negotiating a new air services agreement designed to avoid a break in services when the British colony reverts to China in 1997 (AFP reports).

An official statement said that in the first round of talks in Hong Kong the two sides had negotiated a schedule under which Cathay Pacific would fly to India via Thailand and Vietnam.

Japan prepares to follow British lead on refugees

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

Japan may soon join Britain in repatriating Vietnamese boat people who have fled poverty rather than persecution, after a decision by the Japanese Government last night to send 301 Chinese boat people home.

The 270 male and 31 female Chinese will return in a Chinese-chartered ship tomorrow. They will be followed soon, at a time yet to be agreed with Chinese officials, by the rest of the 1,600 Chinese who landed in southern Japan this summer posing as Vietnamese refugees.

Japanese authorities will not disclose if or how many of the so-called refugees sought political asylum. While officials "are satisfied that they will not face any serious punishment after they return to China", they admit they have no clear idea whether punishment will befall the deportees under Peking's emigration laws. China-watchers predict that their reception will be frosty at best.

Mr Taizo Watanabe, the Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman, said that having established the principle of deporting economic migrants, "there is a possibility of putting that principle into practice" with the 6,000 Vietnamese boat people now in Japan. "We have instituted a system whereby screening will take place in accordance with international agreements."

Ever since the number of boat people started to boom, Tokyo has been keeping an eye on the fate of Vietnamese migrants in Hong Kong.

While Britain's decision last week to start mandatory repatriation of the Vietnamese has created a convenient opening for the Japanese, whose reluctance to embrace immigrants is surpassed only by its dread of courting world criticism, Tokyo is likely to wait a while before following the internationally condemned policy.

Tokyo is always eager to mend fences with China, whose rulers have never let the Japanese forget the torments they inflicted on the Chinese in the last war. Returning the Chinese has been agreed and arranged quickly, with no international officials invited to join the vetting procedures to confirm the boat people's nationality or political motives.

"This deportation of the Chinese people is something different from the Vietnamese returned to Vietnam," said Mr Toshio Tsunozaki, director of the Foreign Ministry's Human Rights and Refugee Division, last night.

"These Chinese migrants are not covered by any international agreement. So the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is not going to be involved unless some of the Chinese claim to be asylum-seekers. There is not a single person (among the Chinese) who has a political motive for coming to Japan."

But even Japanese immigration officials complain that it is hard to tell Chinese migrants from Vietnamese of Chinese descent who fled to China before coming to Japan. The Japanese Government will not say whether the Chinese who go back to China tomorrow are happy about returning.

Brazilian President-elect rejects early hand-over

From Mac Margolis
Brasilia

Aides to Senhor Fernando Collor de Mello, the President-elect of Brazil, yesterday strenuously rejected proposals from President Sarney that he assume office before the appointed date of March 15, 1990.

President Sarney has signalled that he is willing to step down early to make way for Senhor Collor. Until this week, Senhor Sarney had obstinately insisted on completing his five-year mandate, and likened moves to shorten his term to a "coup d'etat".

However, as authorities this week projected, the prices for the month of December will rise by a staggering 50 per cent, and a consensus began to emerge that Brazil's economic crisis is at bursting point. During the election campaign, Senhor Collor was the clear favourite of foreign bankers, who rejected the radical plans for dealing with Brazil's foreign debt of his rival, Senhor Luiz Inácio da Silva.

But Senhor Daniel Tourinho, president of the National Reconstruction Party, which sponsored Senhor Collor's candidacy, said: "There is no possible way we will accept taking office before that date. We have to stop this business of continuously altering the Constitution."

Legislators have filed two separate Bills to Congress to shorten President Sarney's mandate, one calling for the new President to be sworn in on January 31, and the other on February 15. Senhor Sarney told his closest advisers he "would not create any obstacles to the congressional initiative". According to the Constitution, such an amendment must be approved by at least two-thirds of the 559 senators and deputies to Congress. Congress, now in summer recess, will have to be recalled for an emergency session to vote on the amendment.

After 90 per cent of the votes had been officially counted yesterday, Senhor Collor held a comfortable two million vote margin over Senhor da Silva of the Workers' Party.

However, the projected winner reaffirmed that he would announce his victory only after the official result. Nevertheless, his advisers have begun sounding out the country's politicians, business leaders and trade unionists to construct a "government of national union".

Senhor Renan Calheiros, a close adviser to the President-elect, said: "Senhor Collor knows he has to be the President of not just the 53 per cent who elected him, but of all Brazil."

And, behind closed doors, the festivities among Senhor Collor's supporters has already begun. Senhor Collor, celebrated at a friend's house in the capital until 5am yesterday.

● **SÃO PAULO:** A gas explosion killed at least eight people on Monday in a restaurant in São Paulo's banking district (Reuter reports).

Brazilian police said 18 people were injured by the explosion, which caused havoc in the centre of Brazil's biggest city. Onlookers crowded into the narrow streets of the area near the stock exchange and craned out of windows.

The death toll could rise as rescuers were still looking for bodies yesterday.

Leading article, page 15



President Sarney: Offer to step down is spurned.

December 19 1989

PARLIAMENT

£150m compensation in Barlow Clowes case

Substantial *ex gratia* payments to all investors who had suffered loss in the Barlow Clowes affair were announced in a Commons statement by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

To cheers from his backbenchers, Mr Ridley said that investors would be able to recover 90 per cent of investments up to £50,000; 80 per cent of investments between £50,000 and £100,000; and 60 per cent of investments over £100,000. The estimated cost was £150 million.

Mr Ridley gave notice that the Government intended to pursue vigorously any claims that showed prospects of reducing the cost to the public purse of those payments.

Mr Gordon Brown, for the Opposition, welcomed the payments, but said that the Government had shown gullibility and incompetence in ignoring warnings about Barlow Clowes.

Mr Ridley, announcing the Government's response to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration's report on Barlow Clowes, said that it had decided, in the exceptional circumstances of this case and out of respect for the office of the Parliamentary Commissioner, to make substantial *ex gratia* payments to all investors who had suffered loss.

However, he emphasized that the Government did not accept the parliamentary commissioner's main findings; nor was the Government legally liable.

"In disagreeing with the findings in the commissioner's report, the Government is not asserting that the conduct of the department was beyond criticism, given the benefit of hindsight. But in the Government's view the department's handling of the case was within the acceptable range of standards reasonably to be expected of a regulator."

After saying that investors would get interest at building

INDUSTRY

society rates, he added: "It is important to maintain the principle, which the commissioner recognizes, that investors should bear some of the loss themselves. This is particularly so for larger investors, who must be expected to bear a greater part of the responsibility for their own decisions."

A letter had been sent today to all investors giving them an outline of the Government's proposals. Detailed terms would be sent in mid-January, and it was hoped that processing of payments would be completed in February.

"Both recent legislation and recent jurisprudence make clear that regulators are not liable to investors in the exercise of their regulatory functions. The Government does not believe that it would be right for this case to be treated as a precedent, and if similar proposals are made in the future it intends to respond to them in the light of the principles set out in the Government's observations.

"However, because of the exceptional combination of circumstances in the Barlow Clowes affair, the Government has decided to respond generously to relieve the hardship caused to a large number of people."

Mr Brown, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, asked if payments were to be made to dependants of the 600 who had died? Was there to be any contribution from the intermediaries? Would Mr Ridley take court action against those he considered responsible to recover taxpayers' money?

Would payments be made before February so that investors, some on the verge of bankruptcy, would not experience further delays?

The House had had to rely on the Ombudsman to uncover maladministration and incompetence widely known from years ago. The House would find it strange that Mr Ridley was prepared to pay out at least £150 million and yet continued to deny the Government's responsibility for mistakes and did not apologize for this department's role.

The reason for the payments of this public money was not the gullibility or incompetence of the small investor but the gullibility and incompetence of the Government which for years ignored all warnings about Barlow Clowes.

The Ombudsman's conclusion was that mismanagement happened throughout the 1980s and not just in 1985 and afterwards when the firm was licensed and relicensed. During the 1980s there had been continued failure to heed at least 10 warnings, including warnings from the Stock Exchange, Bank of England and regulatory bodies, about this firm.

Mr Ridley said that dependants and the estates of those who were deceased would be elegible to claim their share of compensation.

The Government would pursue as vigorously as it could third parties where it believed it might be possible to recover some of the cost.

He hoped that all the money would be paid out in February, but it was required of investors or estates to make the necessary claims as quickly as possible after they received the forms so the payments could be got out to them.

Although the gross cost of the annoucement was £150 million, the liquidators expected to be able to return more than £60 million from the funds still with them, so the net cost would be much less, and less still if further sums were recovered from third parties.

Mr Ian Stewart (North Hertfordshire, C) said that the handsome scheme of recompense would be welcomed. But Mr Ridley should reflect on the lessons of this sad story. It did not require a great deal of insight in 1985 to appreciate that the business of Barlow Clowes was not being run properly.

Mr Ridley said that there was a grave danger of mixing up insight with hindsight.

Mr Alfred Morris (Manchester, Wythenshawe, Lab) said that the victims of this huge and vile swindle had received a further hammer blow with demands for thousands of pounds from the Inland Revenue for taxation.

Mr Ridley said that the Inland Revenue believed that the payments announced today were not subject to income tax. If MPs found tax problems among their constituents, they should get in touch with the revenue or the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, because the revenue would be only too pleased to ensure that the tax law was correctly applied.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) said that, as the first MP to warn the DTI of Barlow Clowes in 1974 and early 1975, he congratuled Mr Ridley on the generous levels of compensation. They would restore the confidence of investors.

Mr Merlyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab) said that it was the Ombudsman, not the Government, who ought to be congratulated.

Sir Anthony Buck (Colchester North, C) said that it was a serious situation when a government did not agree with a parliamentary commissioner.

Mr Matthew Taylor, Liberal Democrat spokesman on trade and industry, said that investors would draw their own conclusions as to whose judgement was best, the Ombudsman's or Mr Ridley's.

Sir Peter Hordern (Horsham, C) said that DTI lawyers had in this case excelled themselves in tardiness.

Mr Ridley said that the parliamentary commissioner had not found the actions of the lawyers of great significance. The main point of maladminisration was the fact that the department had failed to notice that the Jersey partnership had different partners from Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers Ltd.



Mr Robert Atkins, Minister for Roads and Traffic, pacing out the centre lane of the M40 yesterday. He had just opened a new section of the road, between Warwick and Birmingham

Further cuts in railway subsidy

An announcement by *Mr Cecil Parkinson*, Secretary of State for Transport, that Network SouthEast should start to make a commercial return by the mid 1990s was sharply attacked.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, said that it would mean fare increases of at least 4 per cent above the rate of inflation every year for the next decade.

"Passengers are fed up with paying the highest fares in Europe for dirty, overcrowded, unreliable services. These latest cuts will mean higher fares and even poorer quality and service."

In a statement outlining British Rail's financial objectives for the period 1990 to 1993, *Mr Parkinson* said that investment in 1989-90 was the highest for 25 years.

It was going up a further 75 per cent over the next three years during which he wanted to see substantial further progress on safety, quality and financial performance.

Intercity's objective for 1992-93 would be a current cost profit of £95 million at today's prices. The overall objective for Railfreight would be a profit of £50 million. There was a £9 million profit target for parcels.

By the mid-1990s, he hoped that Network SouthEast would start earning a commercial return. He was asking the British Rail board to produce plans for that.

"Meanwhile, I am endorsing the board's own objective of reducing the grant requirement to zero in 1992-93. I am satisfied that by then Network SouthEast should not need a revenue subsidy.

On the provincial sector, he was endorsing the board's objective to reduce the grant from about £400 million this year to £345 million by 1992-93.

Neither reductions in subsidy nor the huge increases in investment would lead to large fare increases. These objectives were based on British Rail's own forecasts. Its corporate plan assumed only "modest" real fare increases.

Mr Prescott condemned the Government's "disatrous penny pinching" approach. In the 10 years to 1993, the Treasury would have denied British Rail £3.5 billion in financial support.

Safety, quality and realiability had suffered, fares had rocketed and Britain was missing the big opportunities offered by the Channel tunnel.

Fares were already higher than elsewhere in Europe. How much more must passengers pay to get a seat on a train, to be on time and to get a guarantee a safe and reliable journey?

Not one penny of investment would be paid by the Treasury. All of it would come from higher fares, chronic overcrowding, property and land sales, redundancies and low pay.

Passengers would be outraged that British Rail was already saying in its corporate plan that it would be unable to meet targets set by Mr Parkinson to reduce overcrowding.

Mr Parkinson said that to subsidize services for which there was an excessive demand was an absurd waste of money.

Mr Edward Heath (Old Bexley and Sidcup, C) said that it was difficult for many in the House to give much weight to British Rail's forecasts or undertakings after their experience with the fast link to the Channel tunnel.

It was not possible to have a railway that was profitable and at the same time which took account of the environment. He hoped that Mr Parkinson accepted that expenditure on the environment, tunnelling and so on, was necessary.

Second reading: House of Lords

Hailsham attack on courts measure

The outcome of the Bill embodying the Government's important legal profession reforms, the Courts and Legal Services Bill, was difficult to predict, Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, said during second reading of the Bill.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, a former Lord Chancellor, said that, with the exception of the first part, the Bill had been generated entirely within the government machine. That was no way of carrying out serious law reform.

Second reading was moved by the **Lord Chancellor** (Lord MacKay of Clashfern), who said that the Bill was the most diverse of the three major pieces of legislation affecting legal services that he had introduced in the past three years.

The Government's keynote was to improve access to justice for all who needed it.

There were three elements to that: a just and efficient court system; sufficient legal services of the right kinds to meet clients' needs in relation to courts, and more generally; and an efficient and effective scheme to make public funds available to those who needed legal services and could not meet the costs.

The last had been tackled first and he had been puzzled that some critics of the present proposals had complained that the proposals were not directed at legal aid. They had not been intended to, and that had been made clear from the outset.

The proposals were relevant to that, however, because, by greater choice, clients could get more precisely what they wanted from the legal profession. And by seeking to make the workings of the profession more efficient, he hoped to reduce the occasions when the client, whether publicly or privately funded, had to pay for a mismatch of services to his needs or for unnecessary extras.

He was not seeking a huge overhaul of the legal-aid legislation because one had just been completed. A review of the financial conditions for legal aid had been instituted.

The aim of the present Bill was that the High Court would eventually be reserved for specialist cases, including judicial review and general cases of unusual substance or difficuly.

He was seeking to create a framework that would foster evolution in legal services, allowing them to be more varied and better adapted to clients' needs.

The reason for differences between the White Paper and the Bill was partly that the language of statute was necessarily different from that of White Papers, and partly because they had now had to separate which elements of the objectives related to which areas of legal services.

The four areas were advocacy, litigation, conveyancing and probate. The aim was to ensure new ways of providing those services and a wider choice of people providing them.

The Bill would create an Authorized Conveyancing Practitioners Board to ensure the competent conduct of conveyancing. An ombudsman would also be established.

Arrangements for probate would differ in detail from the White Paper, in the interests of greater client protection. It had been proposed that all trust corporations should be authorized to undertake probate work and other bodies should be enabled to seek to do so.

"On further thought, I have decided that this casts the net a little too widely. The Bill therefore proposes that banks, building societies and insurance companies should be able to prepare for reward, and to lodge, papers for a grant of probate or letters of administration, providing they belong to a suitable complaints handling scheme."

Letters, page 15

Thatcher's 'duty' to Hong Kong

The Prime Minister acknowledged a "special duty" to Crown servants in Hong Kong when she was challenged at question time on the right of residents there to live in this country.

She said that the Government had a duty "to do everything we can to keep the prosperity of Hong Kong going right up to 1997". That meant special arrangements for some who were the key people to keeping that prosperity going.

She was responding to Mr **Paddy Ashdown**, leader of the Liberal Democrats, who had said that she now faced a moral test of her premiership as great as that of the Falklands.

The long-term stability of Hong Kong and the honour of this country rested on her finding the courage to face down the bigots on her own back benches and to ignore the moral bankruptcy of the Labour Party.

Mrs Thatcher said that this country had a special duty to those Crown servants who had enabled it and would enable it to carry out British administration of Hong Kong up to 1997. "Those are two groups of people." She hoped that the Foreign Secretary (Douglas Hurd) would be making a statement tomorrow.

At question time in the Lords, the Government was praised by **Lord MacLehose of Beoch**, a former Governor of Hong Kong, for a courageous decision on non-refugee Vietnamese and called for "an even more courageous decision" about nationality to keep people in Hong Kong on the scale needed to save a situation which had once looked menacing.

Ambulance pact 'not wanted'

Millions of people now believed that the Prime Minister did not want a resolution of the ambulance dispute, Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said at question time.

Mrs Thatcher urged him to join her in asking the ambulance staff to accept the reasonable pay offer, return to work, and support the Christmas truce that they had been offered.

USSR 'has no veto'

It did not lie with the Soviet Union to put any veto on a free decision of the people of West Germany and East Germany to unify if they so determined, **Dr David Owen**, leader of the SDP, said at Prime Minister's question time.

In her reply, Mrs **Thatcher** said that any changes must take place against the background of undertakings already made. These were the Helsinki Final Act, signed by 34 nations which agreed that there be no violation of borders or changes of them without agreement, the arrangements between the four powers in Berlin, and the Nato and Warsaw Pact alliances.

Delay over Blandford fly

The Government is awaiting advice from a scientific committee in January before deciding whether to approve an application for full-scale treatment of the River Stour in Dorset against the Blandford Fly, **Lord Strathclyde**, for the Government, said during question time in the Lords. The fly has been troubling Dorset for some time.

Universities

By the beginning of December, the Universities Central Council on Admissions had received 135,600 applications from home and overseas students for admission to university next autumn, a 12.8 per cent increase on the same period last year.

School moves

About 79 schools have embarked on the process of applying for grant-maintained status, and parents at 51 of them have so far voted in favour of proceeding with an application, Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in a written answer. Approval had been granted to 32 applications out of 41 that had reached him.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Scotland. Motion for the Christmas recess and Consolidated Fund Bill with debates on various topics.
Lords (2.30): Debate on protecting the world's environment.

Ministers 'have sabotaged' EC package holidays move

One million holidaymakers, whose package trips abroad went wrong last year, would demand to know why the Government had sabotaged a European Community directive designed to give them better protection, **Mr Nigel Griffiths**, Opposition spokesman on consumers, said.

The Government had been engaged in three months of disgraceful lobbying to weaken the draft directive, he said, during a short debate about the proposal early on Tuesday morning.

Mr Eric Forth, Under Secretary of State for Industry and Consumer Affairs, said that the directive had to strike a fair balance between consumer protection and the need to avoid undue burdens on the travel industry, which would adversely affect the price and range of holidays available.

Mr Griffiths said that ministers had made no secret of their desire to ensure less protection to tourists and more to the tourism industry.

Contract terms did not have to be spelt out in travel brochures, surcharges could be levied without explanation, holidays could be cancelled within 24 hours of departure, 24-hour trips were not covered, and there was no strict liability on companies to compensate in the event of problems.

Holidaymakers needed protection against overbookings, airport delays and unacceptable accommodation. Surcharges should be banned.

"The directive is only a pale shadow of the original draft and only offers limited protection." There should be Europea-wide, on-the-spot arbitration. "People want the holiday they have booked at the price they have paid."

Earlier, **Mr Forth**, opening the debate, said that the directive was a compromise. The Government believed that it should be confined to tour operators and their competitors. Otherwise, it could mean the demise of day trips. Schools, clubs and churches would have to think carefully before continuing with their outings.

If the full force of the directive were extended to trips of any kind, a wide range of innocent, one-off, non-profit-making activities could be brought to an end. The directive sought to omit trips of less than 24 hours. Business travel would not come under its scope.

The directive offered defences for contributory negligence and unforeseen circumstances. The travel industry had served people well, but he was not blind to its faults.

If there had been any watering down of the proposals, ministers from the 12 members states had agreed to it. A motion to take note of the EC documents was approved without a division.

Frigate order for Swan Hunter

The keen competition to build Type 23 frigates had shown that the Government's approach was continuing to encourage improved efficiency in the shipbuilding industry, *Mr Michael Neubert*, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, told the Commons.

He was announcing that the order for a batch of three vessels would be placed with Swan Hunter Shipbuilders of Wallsend in Newcastle upon Tyne.

The unsuccessful yards were Cammell Laird Shipbuilders in Birkenhead, and Yarrow Shipbuilders in Glasgow.

Mr Neubert said in a statement that the improved efficiency was enabling the industry to compete more effectively here and abroad.

Swan Hunter had won the order fairly and squarely on commercial terms. The value of the order was commercially confidential, but the average unit cost of the three new ships was significantly less in real terms than for the last order.

He was sure that the three yards would be keen bidders for future requirements, including another batch of Type 23s, for which he hoped to invite tenders next year.

The new ships will be named Westminster, Northumberland and Richmond.



Mr O'Neill: Was price the only factor in the order?

Mr Martin O'Neill, Opposition spokesman on defence, said that the order would bring a sigh of relief to workers and families on the Tyne but bitter disappointment to fellow workers elsewhere. How many Type 23s would be ordered in the coming year? He also asked if price had been the only factor in this tendering process.

What prospect could Mr Neubert offer of alternative and additional work for the Clyde and Merseyside?

Mr Neubert described Mr O'Neill's welcome to the announcemment as grudging. The result must be a disappointment for the unsuccessful yards, but it must not be a matter for despondency. He could not say how many frigates were likely to be ordered next year.

Mr Barry Porter (Wirral South, C) said that this was a bitter disappointment for Cammell Laird. He hoped that next year, Mr Neubert would take account of the possibility that Cammell Laird "might not be there to tender".

Mr Neubert said that Cammell had a lot of defence business. He was evaluating its tender for an aviation support ship.

Dr Norman Godman (Greenock and Port Glasgow, Lab) said that the decision would be deeply disappointing for Yarrow, some of whose workers had been employed there after the closure of Scott Lithgow. How realistic commercially had the successful bid been?

Mr Neubert said that the last question was subject to commercial confidentiality.

The soundness of the Government's defence policy was the greatest assurance for shipbuilding in Britain. The cuts in defence spending that the Labour Party conference had voted for would mean that prospects for British shipbuilding would be pretty bleak if not non-existent.

In reply to further questions, **Mr Neubert** said that the order mean that 10,000 jobs would be sustained over the next four to five years in an area of higher than average unemployment.

Broadcasting Bill should not disbar churches, says MP

The following report of the latter stages of Monday's second-reading debate on the Broadcasting Bill appeared, in part, in later editions yesterday.

The Bill was deficient and unsatisfactory on religious broadcasting, *Mr Michael Alison* (Selby, C), who usually answers Commons questions for the Church Commissioners, said.

Speaking in the second reading debate, he said that the Broadcasting Bill barely said a word about religious broadcasting that was not in terms of prohibitions and restrictions. It was unreasonable and unacceptable to disbar churches from being franchise licensees.

Some argued that events in the US where such broadcasting was allowed showed its undesirability, but this Bill contained safeguards to prevent such abuse.

The Government should consider removing that fundamental limitation.

Sir Geoffrey Pattie (Chertsey and Walton, C) said that if the ITC could not take account of such criteria as the amount to be spent on programmes, they would be driving further down the route of lower standards. He sought assurance that the Home Secretary would meet his concerns, building in some discretion for the ITC, otherwise he might not be able to support the Bill.



Mr Alison: Bill is unsatisfactory on religious broadcasting

Mr Julian Critchley (Aldershot, C) said that the Home Office did not like regulation, but was also worried about sex and the need to defend the nation from the heated imagination of Mr Dennis Potter.

Franchises should not be permitted to fall into the hands of the highest bidder, but should go to those who produced the most impressive prospectus.

Mr Timothy Raison (Aylesbury, C) said that the Bill would provide a welcome opportunity to get rid of party political broadcasts, which were either mediocre or mendacious. It would be far better to have five minutes extra broadcast time from the House and abandon political broadcasts.

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody (Crewe and Nantwich, Lab) said that there was nothing in the Bill to safeguard the quality of children's material.

Mr Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby, Lab) said that the Government was compounding the problem caused by more competition, by aiming a body blow at existing channels and the existing production facilities. Market provision just did not work in the media.

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim DUP) said that many Christians felt that if the Bill were not amended, the Christian voice would be increasingly gagged on television and radio.

Mr Robert Maclennan, Liberal Democrat spokesman on home affairs, said that most people would not thank the Government if it simply multiplied the number of buttons that viewers and listeners could press, but subtracted from the quality and variety that they could see and hear. That was the central threat of the Bill.

The restrictions on ownership of the media in America had meant that Mr Murdoch had been forced to divest himself of two newspapers and a televison station. That route ought to be followed in this country.

Mrs Edwina Currie (South Derbyshire, C) said that the Bill required broadcasters to keep their own opinions quiet. Was that not a recipe for greater blandness?

"We don't make such rules for the print media, so we have a much livelier pattern of publishing."

MPs did not watch much television, so they should not set standards for the nation.

Mr David Shaw (Dover, C) said that in the United States, there was a consumer revolt about the violent programmes shown on Rupert Murdoch's Fox Television.

People got together and boycotted the products advertised on the station, . The advertisers said they would withdraw their advertising. The violent programmes were stopped.

People here might have to envisage boycotts if they were not satisfied with the standards of new programmes on stations such as Sky Television.

Mr Robin Corbett, opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that the Government put cash ahead of quality and invited the promotion of the trivial because it treated viewers and listeners as no more than parcels of people to be sold off to advertisers. "That insults both the range of their tastes and their intelligence."

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State, Home Office, said that the quality threshold would be a high fence to jump. It would be a genuine obstacle. During the committee stage the Government was prepared to look at the wording of the threshold provision.

The Bill was read a second time by 310 votes to 238 — Government majority, 72.

● Later, during debate on an associated money resolution, *Mr George Walden* (Buckingham C), who had voted against second reading, said that it must have been the first occasion when a Conservative Home Secretary (Mr Waddington) had mocked the ghost of Lord Reith, the inspiration of public service broadcasting.

He was shocked by the sheer sheddiness of the ministerial arguments used today. They were shameful.

If the quality of ITV was reduced, it would drag the BBC with it. That was what the debate should have been about. The quality of BBC and Channel 4 were in danger.

The Government did not care about the quality of broadcasting in this country.

It had an unspoken philosophy. "They watch trash, they like trash, we will give them more trash."

It was a despicable, shallow White Paper. From such an extreme position, even if the Government moved to the middle, it would not have moved very far towards sanity.

Sir Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C) said that Mr Walden's speech, studded with arrogance, had been well over the top.

SPECTRUM

May the force be with them

From drug-busting in the Cayman Islands and fraud investigation in Montserrat to mounted police training for Singapore, the skills of the British bobby have never been in such demand worldwide. In the week that the authorities in Kenya asked for help in solving the horrendous murder of Julie Ward in a game reserve, and with more than 70 officers working overseas in 31 countries, Brian James talks to the man who makes sure Britain is always ready to help the police with their inquiries



A THIN BLUE LINE THAT'S STRETCHING ACROSS THE WORLD

The badge emblems on the map above indicate how widespread is the help from British police forces. For example: in Botswana, a senior officer helps with border problems, involving the use of sniffer dogs for smuggled arms and explosives. "Terrorist stuff," according to John Kelland, Overseas Police Adviser of the Commonwealth Office and the Inspector-General of Dependent Territories Police. "We put in a man from the RUC." Montserrat wanted help to create a fraud investigation team. So did Kenya. Jamaica wanted training in gathering drugs intelligence, the Cayman Islands requested assistance in organizing the confiscation of drug-sale profits, Namibia sought fingerprint officers to fight fraud at elections. Portugal came for advice on airport security and public order (involving "shields, helmets, batons . . . and, oh yes, community policing"). Lesotho, Barbados and Bahrain all have British teams in place, instructing in CID work. Most of the other emblems indicate the presence of either an adviser, setting the agenda for police operations, or a trainer, who is an expert teaching local officers. The Maldives requested that, as a team of UK military advisers was going, could the Yard also post a policeman to the squad? Tanzania want drug-sniffer dogs and the loan of a handler to instruct in their use (Durham will help) and Bahrain and Singapore asked if they could send men here for training as mounted police (Lancashire volunteered as hosts).

This year Britain has watched the release of the Guildford Four, and endured the sight of the Hillsborough many; winced at allegations about the procedures before the arrest of Chelsea football hooligans and Kent burglars; deplored the deaths of innocent motorists and pedestrians sideswiped in high-speed chases. The weight of the combined headlines might suggest that our police have seldom been less popular.

Yet the paradox is that the outside world has seldom proclaimed more insistently that "British police are wonderful". The evidence is not in the gushing approval of Missouri housewives politely shepherded across Piccadilly, and pointed towards the Tower, but in the files of an unassuming office several floors above Sir Winston Churchill's old War Room near Admiralty Arch.

This week a new dossier has been opened: it is marked "Kenya" and reflects the request for a team of British detectives to fly to the former colony to attempt to solve the murder of Julie Ward, aged 28, whose partly-dismembered and burned body was found in a Kenyan game forest more than a year ago.

The file joins hundreds of others in the offices of the Overseas Police Adviser of the Commonwealth Office and the Inspector-General of Dependent Territories Police. Two posts, but one man: John Kelland, who started as a police constable in Plymouth, rose to Assistant Chief Constable in Cumbria, Police Commissioner for Fiji, and Director of Senior Command Courses at the police college at Bramshill, Hampshire. In four years his "beat" has taken him to all 48 Commonwealth countries and a dozen more besides.

The message from Kenya is part of a steady stream of requests for British policemen, senior specialists in crime investigation or force management, to fly out to help other policemen with their inquiries.

When we spoke, more than 70 officers from the British Isles were serving in 31 countries. Kelland can trace help which has been sent to 146 countries, many of them far beyond the old British Empire and with no past connections with the Crown, which have sought aid from a force they see as the best in the business.

Requests, from overseas governments routed via the Foreign Office, usually begin: "Can you help with police training in . . ." Kelland, who on average leaves for a field trip once a month, often knows what is wanted. Otherwise, he sends an adviser, borrowed from one of the 47 forces in England and Wales, to assess the needs.

When it has been established that the posting of a senior officer makes sense, Kelland's office advertises in *Police Review*, or asks Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary to make a "trawl" of qualified officers. As all applications, even from a sergeant dog-handler, need a chief constable's approval, Kelland naturally suspects many replies are dustbinned by chiefs not keen to lose a key man volunteering for, say, two years in Barbados.

Seconded officers are paid by the Overseas Development Agency and only a lack of funds – £1.4 million available this year – prevents the sending of many more men and planeloads of material. Countries regarded as financially self-sufficient, such as the Cayman Islands, get no subsidized help and must foot the bill if they want a British police adviser.

"We try to fit the man to the post," Kelland says. "For the sake of national prestige, every diplomat wants only the top men out there demonstrating the best methods and the soundest equipment. But, as coppers, we have to think more about the *sort* of policing needed. A chap might be a great thief-taker, but is he the best man in an area we know to be sensitive? Just doing the job is fine in the United Kingdom, but out there it is less doing than showing. He must be able to talk, to explain.

"At interview we tell them about the snags. It is going to get lonely [only men on long postings may take wives] but men of bachelor status cannot start tom-catting around. Nor, in a country where some degree of corruption is almost certain, can he accept favours like free drinks.

"The whole point of going is to demonstrate you are different, a model of integrity and honesty . . . They have the most huge expectation of the British copper. Infuriatingly, every one, even if he comes from Northumbria, is known as 'the Scotland Yard man'. That expectation we dare not disappoint."

One tightrope Kelland's office walks is deciding when a policeman is not a policeman. He and his colleagues are barred from offering aid to another nation's army or paramilitary force, but tact is required when a request comes for Land-Rovers for a civilian police force, when it is known that the vehicles will share the same garage and spares as that nation's "special units", and that at times of crisis any dividing line tends to vanish.

"We have no difficulty with items that come on some shopping lists – such as dynamite, which we scrubbed out as being no part of police development," Kelland says.

Nor did they have much truck with a request for "police vehicles . . . but only Mercedes, please". Their man looked around and reported: "What they need is Land-Rovers. And pocket notebooks. And pencils. And boots." Some shopping lists are marvellously optimistic. Kelland remembers one that began: "Motor launches and *some* helicopters." Some nations do get motorboats – but not with the big machine-guns usually requested – to combat drug-smuggling.

Kelland says: "We are certain that the best aid we provide is not materials, but knowledge. I often go to a remote station and see they are still using the same books and forms as when I walked the beat. Bringing them up to date is the game. Training, done properly, lasts and lasts and is passed on for generations. A Land-Rover is going to end up in a ditch, sooner or later."

What of that other tightrope, when they are asked to help police in countries where civil rights are abused, and where the police are seen as oppressors? "The diplomatic post will have approved or we would not have been reached." Kelland says. "I would assume that HMG had thought it appropriate that I go if only because of merit being seen in the idea that it is better to have some input into a country than leave it isolated.

"But I am not a diplomat and make no attempt to make political suggestions and decisions. I inspect the force in question, and see if what it needs is appropriate. If it needs a drastic revision from the top command downwards, I say say so. If there is nothing we can do to make it the sort of democratically accountable force we recognize, I say that, too. Then my political masters decide."

Another duty is the processing of applications for training in the United Kingdom of foreign officers. Hundreds attend command courses at Bramshill, or specialized training such as that given at the detective school in Wakefield, west Yorkshire. Kelland's staff also fields appeals for help with current cases. Whether the cases are serial murders in the Caribbean, computer-based fraud in Asia, a political assassination attempt in Sri Lanka, or a drug-running outbreak in Africa, they can have British officers, often from the Met, on their way in hours.

Detective Chief Superintendent Ken Thompson, of the International and Organized Crime Branch at New Scotland Yard, has been abroad twice on cases with which the Metropolitan Police have been asked for urgent help. Of the 280 men in the branch, three officers of his rank, plus back-up teams, are on stand-by to leave at a few hours' notice.

Thompson was sent to Uganda to "help with a little problem, that looked as though it might get bigger". An ex-minister had been murdered during an armed robbery. Suggestions of political motivation were being made and Uganda needed outside supervision to ward off cover-up accusations.

The Yard man took with him a forensic expert. "We needed to do some fairly sophisticated work involving trajectory of bullets, for which Uganda was not equipped," Thompson said. But to make sure there was no suggestion of an insensitive British takeover of the investigation, Ugandan policemen were sent with samples for forensic examination back to British laboratories.

It was concluded by Thompson, after four weeks, that there was no political involvement, that the men charged were just robbers, and that their camouflage "uniform" was a reflection of Uganda's many past coups and nothing more. What happened to them? "They work to a different legal system out there. I don't know that a trial ever took place. But I did hear that one of the accused escaped."

Thompson's second investigative expedition was to Colombo after a grenade attack on the Sri Lankan parliament: "Our task was to help answer questions such as whether the attack was made by one madman or an organized group. If so, what group? And what about reports that a shot had been fired in the chamber? Was there another attempted assassin among the MPs?

"This sort of investigation is about creating systems," Thompson says. "We went there with a case full of forms, labels and an action board. We managed to establish where every one of the 137 MPs had been sitting, cross-referred all statements and cleared up a lot of the chaos that always surrounds this sort of incident, including disproving that a gunman had been involved."

Again the Yard men have no record of any trial or sentence following their six-week search: "Not our business. We go to help make sure the investigation is conducted with all the experience and resources we have, but they might lack."

In the case of the murder of Julie Ward, Commander Roy Penrose, head of the International and Organized Crime Branch, said: "We are still awaiting the formal paperwork on Kenya. There is no great urgency because the scene-of-crime investigation is long since past. But I expect a team of two senior men will be on their way after Christmas, and they will already have begun briefing themselves on the background. We have still to be told precisely what the Kenyans want us to do. But even if it is merely to check on their procedures or review the investigation so far, the ultimate aim would have to be to come up with the name of a perpetrator.

"The name of the Yard is legendary. Our expertise still matches that legend. That's why the countries of the world keep calling."



Presents for those we hate



CRAIG BROWN

'The famous medium's contact with those on the other side is curiously confined almost exclusively to late celebrities'

A month or so ago, I wrote in my Saturday column about my hobby of collecting dud books. Space prevented me from doing little but reveal the tip of the iceberg of my extensive collection – *Conversations with Eric Clapton, The Non-Alignment Movement is a Mighty Anti-Imperialist Force of our Times*, by Kim Il Sung – and one or two others. But, with only four shopping days left until Christmas, I have been badgered by readers to suggest further presents for their worst enemies:

***Duchess*, by Andrew Morton (1988).**

Many books by or about members of the Royal Family have a valued place in my collection. Prince Philip's philosophical outburst, such as *Of men, machines and sacred cows*, and anthologies of his aphorisms, such as *The Wit of Prince Philip*, are among my personal favourites. Biographies of the younger members of the Royal Family tend towards a strong mix of banality and sycophancy. "She enjoys roast beef, Elton John and downhill skiing – but not necessarily in that order. She collects English architectural drawings, 18th century watercolours and silly cartoons. She loathes snakes, snobs and psychology," begins this biography of the Duchess of York. It ends: "Pleasing people was her way of life long before she joined the Royal Family."

***Voices of Love*, by Doris Stokes (1986).**

Following the success of her five previous autobiographies, including *Voices in My Ear, A Host of Voices, Whispering Voices*, and so on, Doris Stokes ("An ordinary housewife with an extraordinary gift") issued a sixth. The famous medium's contact with those on "the other side" is curiously confined almost exclusively to late celebrities. On page 135, Doris Stokes describes first making contact with deceased pop star Marc Bolan: "He was particularly thrilled to have met his idol Elvis Presley and he brought him along to say hello. Marc introduced Elvis to his mother and Elvis introduced Marc to *his* mother who was with him on the other side.".

***Don't Trust to Luck*, by Lord Beaverbrook (1951).**

It is commonly believed that books advising the common man how to get on in life by Captains of Industry are a product of the 1980s, but this is not the case. *Don't Trust to Luck* was a revised version of Lord Beaverbrook's earlier *Success* (1921). Its chapter headings include, "Judgement is the Master Key", "That First £1,000", "To Save is to Create" and "Salesmen Serve Mankind". As is common in such works, the author tends to look no further than to his own career when searching for an example of the heroism and industry that he preaches. ("What's more, when I play football you'll usually find me on the right wing!").

***The Living Legend* – an autobiography by Tony Blackburn (1985).**

Frankness is usually to be welcomed in an autobiography, but not, I think, in this one. "I invite all the ladies in my life to the same Italian restaurant in west London where the waiters understand how to create the mood of love," he reveals. "I have a special table and as I take a girl's hand in mine or look deep into her eyes the lighting is lowered by an attentive waiter to cast a seductive glow. I tell each girl that life is a journey and it is up to each of us to fill our time on this earth with as many wonderful events as possible. I never press a girl to come to bed."

***The Bay City Rollers – Tam Paton's Sensational Inside Story of Britain's No 1 Pop Group*, by Michael Wale (1975).**

This book was published at the height of the Bay City Rollers' career. "We're only half-way through 1975 by now but as I leaf through the memories in this book, I feel that it should be called Chapter One, because for the Bay City Rollers this is only the beginning," is the final sentence in the book. Alas, it would more properly have been called "Closing Chapter", for the group's popularity began to wane soon afterwards. After "You Made Me Believe in Magic" reached only 34 in the charts in 1977, the group disappeared, though Jonathan Meades claims to have seen one of their number working behind the counter recently at a magazine store near Kings Cross.

"Deny yourself all, and yet do not boast of self-restraint" he concludes, "Hope all, without arrogance, and you will achieve all without losing the capacity for moderation. Then the Temple of Success will assuredly be open to you, and you will pass through to the inner shrine of happiness."

***Inside Left – The Story So Far*, by Derek Hatton (1988).**

Some political autobiographies are more blindly pompous – in *Time and Chance*, James Callaghan declares that the result of the 1979 general election "demonstrated that how much steady understanding and support existed for what we had tried to do" and some are madder – the entry for Christmas Day 1976 in the *Benn Diaries* begins, "Caroline gave each of us a copy of the Communist Manifesto in our stockings, published in English in Russia, and she gave Josh a book called *Marx for Beginners* and gave Hilary Isaac Deutscher's three-volume biography of Trotsky" – but none has such an exquisite combination of thuggery and conceit as Derek Hatton's

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Toying with their affection?

What we give our children for Christmas speaks volumes about the aspirations we have for them — and for ourselves. Alexandra King unwraps the truth

The toys under your Christmas tree can speak more loudly than any talking teddy. They broadcast a powerful message about your family, its hopes and aspirations.

Whether you have bought your children the latest Ghostbusters zapper gun, a hand-carved wooden doll's house, face paints or a miniature kitchen, you have revealed more about yourself than you bargained for. They give a good indication of your ambitions for your children's future — and the size of the stack of toys under the tree is usually in inverse proportion to the amount of thought and care put into choosing them.

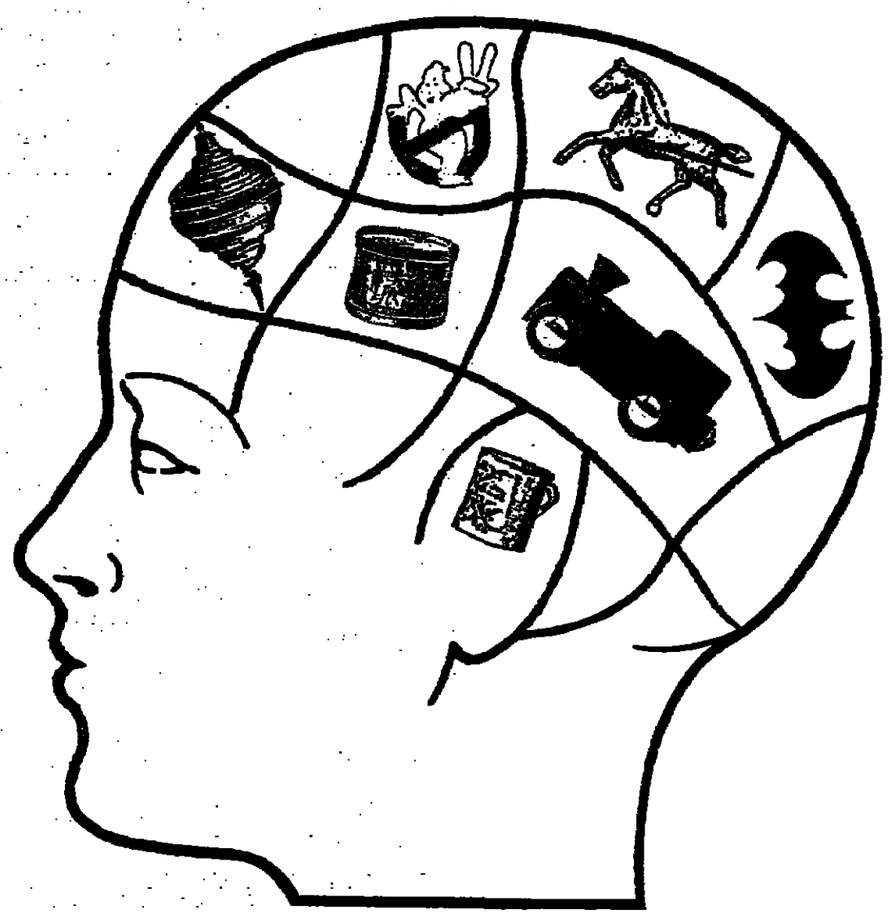
Elizabeth Newson, professor of developmental psychology at the University of Nottingham, and her husband John Newson, professor of child development at the same university, have researched the playing and toy-buying habits of thousands of families over two generations. They are consultants to the toy manufacturer, Kiddicraft, and also run their own toyshop in London, selling craftsman-made wooden rocking horses and doll's houses, and other "quality toys — because we thought it would be fun to test out the ideas from our toy research, with every toy being something we believe in", Elizabeth Newson explains.

They know that many a council estate lounge is crammed with state-of-the-art electronic games, interactive dolls and BMX bikes, while the Father Christmas who visits genteel Georgian sitting-rooms can be surprisingly miserly. And they know that one of their most expensive rocking horses — at well above the £1,000 mark — has left the shop "on the back of a lorry — for the lorry driver's daughter".

"Toys are a very class-related purchase," observes Elizabeth Newson, "but that has nothing to do with their price. They reflect a state of mind, not a state of money. Remember, a middle-class professional family could be composed of two nurses, who might make less money than a lorry driver. Many working-class families have a powerful urge to give their children everything they didn't have as children, which is understandable if not always advisable, whereas middle-class professional people tend to believe in the puritan ethic of postponed pleasure and learning the value of things."

Giving a child everything he asks for at Christmas is not being kind to him in the long run, the Newsons — obviously subscribers to the puritan ethic — warn. "Buying what the child puts on his Christmas list doesn't take much thought," Elizabeth Newson believes. "You should be thinking of what might surprise, stimulate and stretch him — which might be something he's never dreamed of. I once gave a three-year-old a sackful of hats from Oxfam, which didn't cost much and provided endless imaginative play."

But what about keeping the faith in Father Christmas? If little Amanda has demanded a My Little Pony Perfume Puff Palace and ends up with a sack of hats — or even an heirloom hand-me-down doll's house — won't she feel cheated and disillusioned? "Nonsense," Newson retorts. Father Christmas filled only stockings for her three children, she says, and a wise parent could easily implant the idea that he knows what children *should* have, rather than always giving them what they want.



'Toys are a very class-related purchase, but that has nothing to do with price'

Bombarding a child with the latest highly priced pieces of plastic hyped in television advertisements is for parents who don't bother to put much thought into their offspring, Newson says — and to judge from the scarcity of any toy connected to a popular film or television series several months before Christmas, the majority don't. "Many of the battery-operated toys and talking dolls and teddies will hardly last until the new year," says Newson, who has tested many of them. "I would expect my main present to be something that will last and grow with the child."

But isn't that type of gift — the model railway, the stamp collection, the beautiful doll's house and furniture — all too often bought by parents or grandparents living out their own frustrated fantasies? "Yes," Newson acknowledges, "we often buy toys for ourselves — the beautiful doll we longed for, the model railway we've always dreamed of playing with. But then the people who buy those sorts of toys are usually more prepared to put in the time playing with their children. Our research has shown that middle-class mothers — even those who work — take play much more seriously and play more with their children than working-class mothers who are at home. Working-class parents have a much stronger belief in fate — 'if he's got it in him I won't stand in his way' — whereas it's the middle-class parents who do the pushing. I don't necessarily mean those who are well off, but those who have middle-class aspirations to do with education and achievement rather than simply material gain."

The "working-class" toy-buying mentality, as Newson defines it, can persist even in a mock Tudor mansion with gilded taps. Harassed dual-career couples with more money than time may find themselves in Hamley's on Christmas Eve snapping up everything in sight in a guilt-ridden orgy. Such parents probably give themselves a higher priority over Christmas, and may be more concerned with choosing the right label wines and cashmere sweaters than the correct toy to stretch a six-year-old's imagination.

People inevitably give presents that reflect their own interests — whether it's a miniature office set or a toy cooker — Newson says. "But a professional mother who expects her daughter to follow in her footsteps would not give her a plastic desk," she maintains. "That's for someone who hopes her daughter might be a secretary. She might give her a pile of books and a second-hand typewriter — as my mother did me. And a plastic play kitchen would not be given to a young middle-class child because it would be expected that he or she would be doing real cooking in the real kitchen by then — but a child might be given a toy vacuum cleaner so he could follow his mother — or father — around the house. At our playroom at the university the boys use the vacuums more than the girls do."

A plastic kitchen with too many gadgets and dials would not be found under top trees, says Newson. "If professional parents were going to give their under three-year-old some toy kitchen equipment, it would probably be real little Galt saucepans and a wooden oven — or perhaps one made, as we do at the university, out of a sturdy bedside cabinet with wooden spools as knobs and a painted top."

Giving a little girl a toy cooker isn't going to condemn her to a life in the kitchen, Newson's research has shown — any more than a play desk will turn her into a tycoon. Such gifts do more to show the parents' expectations than to influence the child's. But it still takes an extremely confident parent to buy toys such as cookers and vacuums for boys, "and would probably only happen in a household where there was a 'New Man' around".

Giving a little girl make-up is inadvisable, according to Newson (as are all the new "make-up" dolls and ponies), whereas face paints or stage make-up are an acceptable gift, because they open the door to creative play rather than attempting to create a false sophistication.

Even pacifist parents might be persuaded to let their child have a Lone Ranger-style pistol, but would draw the line at Rambo-esque machine guns or "weapons of mass destruction", Newson suggests. "My own feeling would be that if the parent doesn't approve, the child should be made to save up for one out of his own pocket money."

Children of professional parents generally receive less pocket money than working-class children, and are expected to save more of it, she has found. They also get fewer toys from their parents at Christmas. But there will be compensations in family treats and activities. "The Christmas tree may not have so many toys under it, but there may be tickets to the ballet or a good science show or a subscription to a magazine or membership to a book club. This is in a family that is aware of all the possibilities — and which may do its shopping from educational catalogues, museums and other places besides the High Street toy shops.

"Some parents and their children are much more influenced by television advertisements," Newson says. "One of the latest crazes is those flowers that dance — and they have a lot of fascination. I wouldn't buy them for an ordinary child, because they're a Christmas Day wonder which won't last very long in terms of play value. But they are wonderful for helping handicapped children with speaking difficulties, as they respond when you talk to them."

She worries about the talking toys which only talk when something is wrong. "You hold them upside-down and they ask to be turned right side up again in several different ways. I have seen children become very cruel with dolls like this, because they only get a reaction when the doll is uncomfortable — and they like to hear it talk or cry."

Computers, Newson feels, are among the few completely "class-less" toys around, and have been a great leveller. But the choice of software is significant — whether it is educational (enhancing the child's development) or of the zap-bang variety (creating a generation of computer zombies). Ultimately the most important gift you can give your children, Newson feels, is one that is invisible under the Christmas tree: "Integrity. I think you teach them something very important by being true to yourself and your principles," she says. "I think the child learns from the fact that the parent agonizes about whether or not to allow him to have a gun, and I believe you cannot give a child a toy you do not approve of and be true to yourself or them."

Still, it is mighty difficult to stand your moral ground. Most of us grit our teeth, fork out in disgust for the My Little Pony Perfume Puff Palace (if we're lucky enough to be able to find one), and anticipate only the "postponed pleasure" of being able to say "I told you so" when it is cast aside for the next fad.

© Times Newspapers Ltd 1989

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

Beat a retreat

After the over-indulgent Yeneticism of Christmas, the thought of a spartan, contemplative retreat should appeal. Taraloka, the women's retreat run in Shropshire by Friends of the Western Buddhist Order, has published its 1990 brochure giving details of forthcoming programmes, including meditation and yoga workshops, massage weekends, and music and movement courses, which can be enjoyed even by those who have no wish to become practising Buddhists. Most weekends cost £53 (£33 to those on low incomes), which includes ample vegetarian food and dormitory-style accommodation. The brochure can be obtained by sending an SAE to The Secretary, Taraloka, Cornhill Farm, Bettisfield, near Whitchurch, Shropshire (094 875646).

Eel be all right

For those who cannot contemplate crocodile skin a luxury accessories business in Belgravia, central London, is offering what it says is an ecologically sound alternative: eelskin. Because *Eptatretus bergeri* is not caught specifically for its leathery skin but as a staple species in an long-established fishing industry in the Pacific, the Eelskin Shop is hoping that it will, acceptably, fill the gap left through over-exploitation of materials such as crocodile and snake skin. Whether *Eptatretus bergeri* would consider it sound to become part of anything from a spectacles case (£15.90) to a Gladstone bag (£159) no one can say. Angus Greenlees, owner of Eelskin, says, "Only *bergeri's* skin has the lattice-work of fibres that makes it ideal for working into a light, strong material. The Koreans use it to make sandals and I stock shoes made with it. There is no fishy odour, just a pleasant leathery smell." Eelskin Shop is in Elizabeth Street SW1.

Designer wine

The ultimate gift for those obsessed by designer labels has to be the Royal Academy's own-label wines, with the labels designed by Sir Hugh Casson (Cabernet Franc and Tocai Friulano), Theo Crosby (Chardonnay) and John Bratby (champagne). Prices start at £47 for a case of 12 bottles of wine and £160 for the champagne, available from the Royal Academy at Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1.

Air play

If you're planning to travel far afield after Christmas, but are frightened of flying (apparently one of the commonest phobias in Britain today), you might consider investing £5.95 in a cassette tape designed to "soothe away pre-flight nerves and replace the fears with positive and helpful thoughts". Recorded by a hypnotherapist, it is available by mail order from Webucational, PO Box 81, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3UT (0202 887439 or 0703 333405), and normally costs £7.95. Use it on board with your personal stereo instead of listening on the airline headphones.

Quote me...



"Collecting is a sickness, it's a neurosis, ordering the world"
Doris Saatchi

HRT on VHS

The Amarant Trust, the charity which aims to spread the gospel of hormone replacement therapy, now offers a video on *Understanding the Menopause* in addition to its *Amarant Book of HRT* and audio cassette, *The Amarant Guide to HRT*. It is especially helpful because it includes personal accounts from women who have experienced the treatment. The 30-minute video costs £16, the book £4.65 and the cassette £5.99, including postage and packing. Proceeds help to fund the Amarant Clinic in London, which provides counselling and HRT treatment. To order any of the materials contact Amarant Services, 16-24 Lonsdale Road, London NW6 6RD (01-222 1220 or 01-200 0200 for telephone orders). Information packs and membership forms (£12 subscription per year) are available from the same address. For information on the clinic, or an appointment, telephone 01-401 3855. The trust also runs a comprehensive series of HRT Helplines (at the standard 38p per minute peak-time rate), profits of which go towards further research in this field.

Victoria McKee

Party politics with a caviar purse

How to entertain your clients the Manhattan way, by the masters

The chances are that someone grateful for your business or services has invited you to a party to express their appreciation this Christmas. You book the baby-sitter and dress in festive anticipation, only to discover that your host is a style pauper who has cut corners and hopes you won't notice. The restaurant might well be impressive, but instead of letting you loose on the menu, he has pre-ordered a budget set meal and the house plonk; worse, it might just be tired canapés served by waiters trained to keep the champagne labels swaddled in napkins, so you'll never know it was Safeway Spumante.

At a time like this, you might wish yourself transported to Manhattan, where such penny-pinching is unknown; $200,000-plus is what many companies there are investing in their Christmas bash this year. Instead of chewing a cheese straw in Limehouse, you might find yourself nibbling caviar purses at the Met, or crayfish *étouffée* at a fabulous Fifties disco complete with drive-in.

New York businessmen not only like to spend money on their customers, they want the customers to realize they've spent it. Marooned in the conspicuous spending capital of the world, they know how to give a swell party — or, rather, they know whom to call to give it for them, and chances are it will be Jean-Michel Savoca and Boyce Brawley, who cater for all manner of extravaganzas, from galas at the opera to cruises to the foot of Lady Liberty aboard a gigantic floating birthday cake, "iced" in red, white and blue.

These masters of the theme party have now published a book which purports to teach company chairmen how to do it right for themselves. With the aid of pictures of their mega-budget parties and recipes for food you know you're not going to be served in the Euston Road, they hope that those who do not already know how will sharpen up their act before the party season of 1990 rolls around.

"We intended our book to be an eye-opener; to unleash a more adventurous approach to communicating with people in a party situation," says Frenchman Savoca, whose corporate client list includes the Trumps and Malcolm Forbes. America has led him to believe that style can be learnt, even by the crassest.

He notes that the American spirit of abundance extends towards staff as well as guests: "The average spend this Christmas is $200 per head for customers and at least half that for employees." But although the book advocates lavish entertaining as good business practice, he and Brawley are at pains to point out: "It's not what you spend, but *how* you spend it. We always advise lavish cocktails rather than a meagre dinner; for one thing, it gives the host the chance to pass his message on to many more people. On the other hand, dinner done with style is the consummate way to establish a business relationship or build a career."

Gifts — the solid gold monogrammed rather than the paper hat variety — are *de rigueur*; it's unthinkable for guests to leave empty-handed. Themes are important, too, and not nearly so difficult to organize as you might expect, although most of us are less adept than Savoca at visualizing "in snowy February, a lifeless loft turned into a sandy beach, complete with orchids and palm trees" for an out-of-season Hawaiian *luau*.

For the chief executive who has everything — except a talent for hospitality — this book could be a great stocking-filler, if only for the philosophy it expounds. The authors exhort aspiring business hosts to remember that their entertaining style reflects the stature of their company, and not to play it too safe: being courageous, forward-thinking and bold are apparently the elements that put a company on the cutting edge.

In London, it might just mean more fun for everyone, but in New York corporate hosting savvy can actually mean life or death to a company, according to Brawley. "American parties are competitive; several companies vying for the same set of guests. An executive gets maybe 10 invitations a week; he might make an appearance at all of them, but it's the functions he stays at that count. Those are the parties remembered by guests for weeks — along with the message of the host."

Anthea Gerrie

© Times Newspapers Ltd 1989

● New York Parties *is published by Rizzoli International Publications, price £35*

Where to eat out?

If you are thinking of dining out over the holiday period and want the best, but not necessarily the most expensive, consult the Jonathan Meades restaurant directory. In *The Times* on Saturday we shall publish details of the 102 restaurants — including Japanese diners as well as grander establishments — which he has recommended over the past three years.

Dear Newsagent, please deliver/save me a copy of The Times
Weekdays ☐ Saturday ☐
NAME
ADDRESS

"I'd like a National Savings Investment Account for Christmas please, Santa."



INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

The National Savings Investment Account doesn't take tax off your interest before you get it, so it makes an ideal Christmas present for children who are non-taxpayers. (Local banks and building societies have to take tax off and even non-taxpayers can't claim it back.) So nearly all children keep all their interest because very few children are taxpayers.

So, grandparents, aunts, uncles and family friends may find that opening an Investment Account at the post office for a favourite youngster makes an ideal gift for the future. (Children aged 7 or over need to sign an application form themselves.)

But parents need to remember that if they give money to their own children, they would be liable to pay any tax on the interest because it would count as the parents' own income.

If you'd like to know more, call us on 0253 715666 during office hours. Or pick up our Investment Account leaflet at your post office.

NATIONAL SAVINGS

TIMES DIARY

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

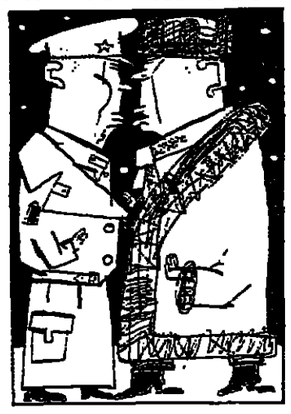
Labour's image as the party of equal opportunities has taken a battering in the People's Republic of Islington, where Mike Devenney, chairman of the council's social services committee, has been deselected and will not be standing in next May's borough elections. In his stead, local Labour activists have chosen the hard-left Bob Crossman, who resigned from the council last year and caused a by-election.

Devenney suffers from cerebral palsy, has an acute speech impediment and communicates with the aid of a facilitator. By all accounts he is an exemplary councillor, but he has run foul of the hard left by refusing to back their plans to set an illegal no-cuts council budget. Margaret Hodge, the council leader, points out that those who deselected him are the left-wingers who persistently attack the Labour council for doing too little to combat disadvantage on the grounds of race, sex and, yes, disability. Such standards, says Hodge, are "plainly dishonest and utterly hypocritical". I could not have put it better myself.

This diary has never seen itself as a lonely hearts column but cannot resist the plight of the eligible British politician, aged 33, qualified as a solicitor, who is seeking a suitable marriage partner via the small ads of Indian newspapers. Potential brides are invited to present themselves to Keith Vaz, Labour's only MP of Asian descent, when he visits the subcontinent as guest of the Indian government in March. But Vaz is horrified by the idea and does not approve at all. "I have nothing to do with this", he says, suggesting that the ads are the work of a "foolish but well-meaning community group" in West London who think it is high time so eligible a bachelor found himself a suitable Asian wife. Vaz is "absolutely terrified" that anyone might respond to the ads. Is there, I asked him, a woman in his life already? Vaz preferred not to say.

As MPs debated a backbench motion on the future of socialism last Friday, Conservative backbencher Nicholas Bennett was clearly anxious to interrupt the speech being made by Tony Benn. The former Labour Cabinet minister immediately gave way in the most gracious fashion. After all, a socialist from a titled family could hardly refuse the claims of a Conservative who can boast as his great-grandfather Tom Mann, famous strike leader of the 1890s and one of the seminal figures of British trade unionism. But this did not prevent Benn from regretting "the terrible family transformation that has occured since".

BARRY FANTONI



'Spent all day thinking I was in a queue to see Sakharov, then found out it was just for bread'

Labour frontbencher George Robertson is enjoying himself at present, quoting copiously from a book written some years ago by Conservative backbencher Edward Leigh, entitled *Right Thinking*. The book boasts the unusual distinction of having two "equally lyrical" forewords of endorsement, by people who usually have difficulty agreeing what day it is. The first was written by Margaret Thatcher, the second by her most virulent critic, the man who would have stood against her if Sir Anthony Meyer had not done so: Sir Ian Gilmour.

As the Government's controversial Legal Services bill enjoyed its second reading in the Lords yesterday, I learnt of a timely ceremony today at Lincoln's Inn. Sir Michael Carr, the former Lord Justice of Appeal, will lay a foundation stone for a new building commemorating the site where, from 1600 to 1987, barristers and solicitors alike enjoyed the use of what m'learned friends describe as a "communal privy". Beneath the stone will be placed a hermetically-sealed time capsule, containing a number of items, including a wig which is more than 100 years old and said to have belonged to Lord Russell of Killowen. Barristers at the Inn, who are not entirely thrilled by the Government's Bill, fear that by the time anyone digs up the capsule, they will not only have lost their monopoly on rights of audience in the higher courts, but may also have seen the end of their powdered wigs.

Mark Almond despairs of any change in Romania

Ceausescu's many props

If we had begun to forget the massacre in Peking in June, Nikolai Ceausescu of Romania has reminded us that the flood of popular protest against corrupt dictatorships can ebb as well as flow. Glib optimism about people power has collided with Mao's dictum that political power resides in the barrel of a gun. As other East European gerontocrats tumble, Ceausescu confidently flies to Iran.

Unlike his toppled colleagues in East Berlin, Prague and Sofia, Ceausescu is a genuine Stalinist. Even before he came to power in 1965, Romania's communists were ridding themselves of Moscow's shackles and imposing their own. When he received Gorbachov's recent round-robin urging the old men of Eastern Europe to retire and make way for reformers, Ceausescu rejected the advice with scorn. Instead of de-Stalinizing, Ceausescu has been ruthlessly transforming Romania. Every aspect of life has felt his determination to create the "new man" fitted to live in Romania's "golden future".

Ceausescu combines his visionary drive with an acutely cynical political brain. He knows better than anyone how unpopular his policies are among all the various ethnic groups in Romania. The investment of 30 per cent of the GNP every year in industrial development, monumental buildings and "systematization" has reduced the 20 million Romanians to the same level of despair and bitterness as the Hungarian and German minorities. Ceausescu's even-handed oppression has created a community of suffering in Romania. But cold and hunger do not make good mentors for revolutionaries. Hope — and a dissident movement that was at least partly tolerated — brought out the crowds in Prague. In Romania, despair may lead to further suicidal protests.

There is little evidence that the recent protests have taken the régime by surprise. On the contrary, its slow build-up to the expulsion of the Hungarian pastor Laszlo Tokes from Timisoara seems almost to have been designed to provoke a confrontation. Did Ceausescu choose the ground knowing the bitterness that was welling up and anxious to teach his subjects a lesson they will not quickly forget?

Perhaps Ceausescu's system of "dynastic socialism" will collapse, but the odds are against it. Leaving aside his clan's control of so many key positions, the non-family members of the Romanian élite must have pondered the lessons of the last few months in Eastern Europe. It profited Egon Krenz and Ladislav Adamec little that they dumped Honecker and Jakes.

In any case, Romania's so-called Muscovites (such as Silviu Brucan, former ambassador to the US), who might have liked to follow the Gorbachov model of reform, have been silenced. Their impotence was revealed by their choosing to write an open letter of criticism of Ceausescu, rather than pulling hidden strings to depose him. Brucan and the others have been moved into squalid house-arrest. Brucan and his ailing 80-year-old wife now live without hot water or electricity.

Ceausescu's charismatic hold over the élite, and its naked interest in survival probably mean that it will hang together for fear of being lynched separately.

Western governments will bleat for a while about the "last tyrant"; even Moscow may express its displeasure; but Ceausescu probably feels he has read the signs of the times well enough. The visit to Peking by President Bush's national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft, will probably have persuaded Ceausescu that the US talks human rights but does business regardless. Gorbachov has now sent an envoy to Peking to pay his respects. The Tiananmen Square solution must seem the way to win friends and influence people. A small massacre in Timisoara may be as readily forgotten.

In any case it will not damage Ceausescu's flourishing relations with the Third World. Arab leaders from Mubarak to Assad are happy to receive him and to buy Romanian arms. Yassir Arafat was the "head of state" whom Ceausescu saw most frequently last year. In May, Deng Xiaoping put on record (in student-paralysed Peking) how grateful he and Gorbachov were to "Comrade Ceausescu" for helping to bring them together, as 20 years earlier he had helped send Nixon to China.

Perhaps Ceausescu has misread the signals sent out by the US mission to Peking. In the days when Moscow was at loggerheads with Peking and the two communist giants vied for American support, Ceausescu's special relationship with Nixon and Kissinger counted for a lot in the battle for influence in Washington. But no longer. Soviet-US relations have never been better, and China enjoys the flattering attentions of both superpowers without the need of a go-between. And China cannot help Romania directly. Chou En-lai warned both Tito and Ceausescu 20 years ago that "distant water cannot dampen local fires".

Neither the West, nor even neighbouring Hungary can or will do much to bring about change in Romania. It is a depressing index of how democratized Hungary has become that only 10,000 demonstrators turned out to protest outside the Romanian embassy in Budapest at the massacre of so many ethnic Hungarians in Romania. While Kadar was still alive, five times as many would turn out after less appalling incidents.

Will the Soviet Union intervene and gain Western endorsement for a Gorbachov doctrine? Romania supplies so much food to the impoverished Soviet people, and Ceausescu is so useful as a "bad example" to illustrate the dangers of replacing Gorbachov, that the idea so often touted in the West of the Red Army liberating Bucharest is probably a pipe-dream.

Given Gorbachov's growing domestic unpopularity and fundamental failure to reform the Soviet economy, the Ceausescus may still rule in Romania when *perestroika* is as fond a memory as the Prague Spring.

Mark Almond is the author of Decline Without Fall: Romania Under Ceausescu.

How firmly rooted is Thatcherism?

IDEAS OF THE '80s



The market may be here to stay, but **Norman Barry** questions the degree of support for other key aspects of Conservative policy

During the 1980s traditional socialism, with its commitment to nationalization and centralized planning, and its naïve faith in the possibility of a benign state allocating resources according to the general good, has been discredited. The lure of the market, with its beguiling promise of a never-ending expansion of choice, the enticement of private ownership for the hitherto propertyless, and the greater efficiency of decentralized decision-making have all proved irresistible; even the Labour Party now claims such ideas for socialism.

However, it would be premature to say that market economics and libertarian politics have so captured the imagination of public and intellectuals that free exchange under impartial and abstract rules of law is secure against a change of government. These ideas had been tried before (briefly by the Heath government between 1970 and 1972) and were resisted. Friedrich Hayek and Milton Friedman had been writing for decades before their views had an impact on public policy. Mrs Thatcher's success depended fundamentally upon her promises to restore to health an economy battered by inflation and indicative planning, and to repair the damage caused by the depredations of unrestrained trade unions, rather than an affection for what are still thought to be "foreign" ideas.

So although the market has been accepted by all sides as indispensable for the efficient allocation of resources and as a necessary (though not sufficient) guarantor of personal liberty, a fierce debate is likely on the extent to which it should determine social affairs.

Only in the control of inflation and in disarming the trade unions has Mrs Thatcher secured the widespread support which is likely to guarantee these aspects of her revolution for the indefinite future. Elsewhere, especially in the privatization programme, Conservative innovations have been achieved largely through the adroit manipulation of interest groups. This leaves large tracts of Britain's economy and society relatively immune to market penetration, either because the public is not ready for it, or because powerful and well-entrenched groups remain opposed.

The defeat of inflation and the defeat of the trade unions were closely linked, and people understood this. Here this government has been successful in detaching people from their sectional interests by exploiting a widespread desire for promotion of a genuine public good. No future Labour government would dare to embark on pro-union policies that would bring back the spectre of the industrial anarchy of the 1970s.

In the privatization programme, the strategy was different. In the absence of general support for it, and faced with much ignorance of its economic foundations, Mrs Thatcher, displaying astute entrepreneurial alertness, put together coalitions of interests which stood to gain almost immediately. Management and workers were bought off with tempting financial offers, in some cases being effectively granted private monopoly status. Public misgivings were assuaged with more or less irresistible share offers. But the spectacular capital gains made from past privatizations are unlikely in the future, for although the Government has secured a surprising success with the water sell-off, this and the privatization of electricity are widely regarded as gratuitous exercises in ideology.

But it is in nationalized health and welfare services that the future of Thatcherism is bleakest. Not only do their present organizational and financial structures have support from powerful interest groups — especially the professions — but the public is wedded to the altruistic impulse on which they are perceived to rest.

The National Health Service is a case in point. Despite mounting evidence that spending on health turns out to be lower when determined politically than when determined by private choice, and despite the established fact that the better-off groups in society take advantage of its unpriced facilities, the public has an emotional attachment to it which can be mobilized against even minor reforms. The health service is sustained as much by emotion as by reason, and the myth persists that any serious free market in health care would automatically mean that the poor would suffer.

The prevailing system is also largely supported by the medical profession, which is reluctant to concede consumer choice and eager to hide behind the veil of clinical autonomy to protect its privileges. Such phenomena prevent not only further progress of Thatcherism, but rational public discussion about the issues.

In the welfare field in general, Mrs Thatcher has experienced great difficulty in making headway. Welfare arrangements are still largely the responsibility of bureaucracies which tell ordinary citizens what to do rather than give them choices enabling them to control their lives.

In education, attempts are under way to introduce consumer choice at the higher levels through the mooted voucher scheme, for those aged between 16 and 19, and student loans (which in theory should end the inequalities and middle-class privileges that occur because of the existence of more or less zero-priced university education). But professional interests and lack of public enthusiasm mean that the reforms here are certain to be half-hearted. Progress to increase parental choice at the school level will be slower because of the power of the teacher unions.

In housing too, although rent control is being phased out, the inegalitarian tax advantage to mortgage payers remains. Its political influence presents an insuperable obstacle to a proper market approach to housing.

So the political debate in the 1990s is likely to be about the extent to which the market should dominate. Having abandoned its belief in centralized economic planning, Labour will be anxious to insulate significant services from the intrusion of private choice. Now that the productivity of private enterprise capitalism is acknowledged, the emphasis will be on the redistribution of its fruits according to social criteria. We are likely to see demands for stricter regulation of capitalism, following the pattern in the US, where the virtual impossibility of implementing socialism has not prevented Congress from severely constricting the country's natural entrepreneurial instincts by rigid controls.

A new interest that poses a threat to the preservation of the Thatcher legacy is the environmental movement. This is the perfect example of a pressure group that can proclaim allegiance to the market while condemning the excesses of capitalism. (However, before Labour leaders seek to capture it they should understand that the fall in living standards that would occur if some current ecological proposals were adopted is unlikely to appeal to Labour's traditional working-class constituency.)

With lukewarm public support and powerful interest-group resistance, Mrs Thatcher, and especially her successors, will be concerned to defend the achievements of the past decade: to practice "safe capitalism" rather than take the electoral risks entailed in experiments with the still illicit pleasures of unalloyed *laissez-faire*. The interest group that supports capitalism as a system of moral values is still extraordinarily small.

The author, Professor of Politics at the University of Buckingham, is currently at the Social Philosophy and Policy Center, Bowling Green State University, Ohio.

Peter Joslin puts the police case for wider powers against drink-drivers

Catch a few, save many

In recent years, drink-driving campaigns have become as much part of the run-up to Christmas as carols and office parties. Stony-faced ministers issue stern warnings, police forces unveil their latest initiatives, elderly columnists with a lifetime of drinking behind them expose their prejudices, and local newspaper editors reinforce them by publishing letters complaining that the police should spend their time chasing burglars instead of persecuting poor motorists.

Any police officer will tell you, of course, that drink-driving is not a problem at Christmas alone, and that our campaigns go on for 365 days of the year. But Christmas campaigns are worthwhile. We all know that more drinking is done at Christmas, but because of these high-profile campaigns, the incidence of drink-driving now is lower than at some other times of year.

A new feature of the Christmas campaign this year is the statement made in the Commons by the Attorney General in answer to a question, asked the day before the launch of the national campaign. Welcomed by the police, but interpreted by some journalists as an announcement of new powers, the Attorney General's statement was no more than a restatement of the law as it stands, and of the judicial interpretation placed upon it in respect of police powers by the Divisional Court, in the case of *The Chief Constable of Gwent v Dash*.

The Attorney General's comments are helpful if only to silence our critics, who believe that chief constables are arrogating powers that Parliament never intended. In a nutshell, drink-drive legislation allows a police officer in uniform to breathalyze any driver involved in a road accident, or committing a moving traffic offence or whom he suspects of having consumed alcohol. Police have the power, under the Road Traffic Act 1988, to require the driver of any vehicle to stop, and as the Attorney General made clear, an officer who stops a vehicle to investigate whether the driver has alcohol in his body is acting legally.

So police officers can stop vehicles at random. But in cases where there has been no accident and the driver is not committing a moving traffic offence, the officer cannot ask for a specimen of breath unless he has reasonable cause to suspect the driver has alcohol in his body.

At the beginning of 1989, the Association of Chief Police Officers made it clear to the Home Secretary that we believe the interests of road safety would best be served, and death and injury at the hands of drink-drivers would be reduced, if the police were to be given wider powers. We seek the power to stop and breathalyze any motorist, irrespective of suspicion that alcohol has been consumed — the "unfettered discretion" advocated by Judge Blennerhassett when reviewing the drink-drive legislation as long ago as 1976.

Even Barbara Castle, when she was forced to drop the random-testing element from her original Road Safety Bill in 1966, was quoted as saying: "I have always believed that if breath-testing is to be a real deterrent it must be random." Opinion polls have repeatedly made clear that more than 80 per cent of the public, and in the case of the Haig Whisky Poll earlier this year 97 per cent, think the police should have wider powers.

The police prefer not to use the popular term Random Breath Testing (RBT), because it means different things to different people. The National Council for Civil Liberties and others think of RBT in terms of roadblocks and stopping all vehicles, so discriminating against no individual; but this is impractical on our congested roads.

Others think of RBT as enabling the police to stop drivers at random only at certain specified locations; but as the New South Wales Police in Australia found, such a restriction of police powers means that many motorists evade checks. Another version of RBT, promoted by the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety and represented in John Home Robertson's private member's Bill, would allow properly authorized roadside checks of a random nature, but might entail so many administrative safeguards to the rights of individuals that police officers would rarely use the new powers.

Blennerhassett's "unfettered discretion", which is sought by the police, would allow us not only to set up roadside checkpoints more effectively than the Australians, but to target areas and individuals, and to make better use of our resources. "Targeting", like "unfettered discretion", is a term that excites our critics, but since reliable research reveals that those in certain age groups are the most likely to drive while under the influence of alcohol, it makes sense to target such individuals — not to persecute them, but to save them from killing and injuring themselves and other road users.

The long-term solution to the problem lies, of course, not in enforcement but in education. We have done more than most other countries in recent years to change the public's attitude to drink-driving. But regrettably there are people who regularly drink and drive, who are unlikely to take advice, who do not believe they will be stopped by the police and who think that if they are, they will be able to conceal their intoxication. It is these people whom we aim to deter, with little inconvenience to the public generally.

The case for wider police powers is clear, the public have made their views known, and it is now time to grasp the nettle.

The author is Chief Constable of Warwickshire.

Come not to bury but to praise



GRIFF RHYS JONES

The central heating was turned up extra high for the first performance of *Thark* at the Lyric Hammersmith last Thursday, so the man next to my wife took his shirt off. The previews generally have been like school chemistry; successful in some parts, dangerously unexpected in others.

I forgot to take on the money for the taxi to give to Hook the butler in the second act. "You'll have to find some money yourself". I improvised gamely. Then Hugh came back on and, sticking strictly to the script, offered me change from the money I hadn't given him. As seasoned old pro's tend to warble on such occasions, "I don't suppose they noticed."

Peter didn't notice anything at all. "I spent the evening wondering if there was something deeper in the play", he told me afterwards. "But there wasn't." And he was right. There isn't.

As backstage opinions go, Peter's was just about passable, but with eight weeks of fun still to come, this seems an appropriate time to offer a word to my claque.

Why anyone should want to go backstage, I have no idea. People imagine a tinsel world of greasepaint and colour. They see instead breezeblocks, large pipes and exposed wiring. The Lyric has these because it is modern. Our more distinguished theatres, by contrast, are like lost extensions of the London sewer system. But if you are known to the cast, you must descend into this sweaty Hades. Nothing is more irritating than to spot a mate in the expensive seats and then find he skulked off to eat without you.

I know it is difficult. The stage-door keeper will treat you like scum. Leading men will elbow you off the stairs. You will feel odd, out of place and overdressed, as you wonder what on earth to say to the great ham below. He will still be in the shower, which gives you thinking time. A soapy arm gestures at you to sit down. (The only chair is occupied by another actor, taking off his make-up, who appears not to notice that you exist.)

You must say something apt. Do not immediately start talking about your baby or the Hong Kong Chinese. Actors in the theatre, unless they have leading roles in *'Allo 'Allo*, are paid £3 a year. They do it for Art's sake, poor souls, and they expect to be warmly congratulated on Art's benefit. One word is usually sufficient.

"Brilliant", will do. "A triumph, an absolute triumph!" almost shouted in a lilting flute, will pass. But I suggest you leave it at that. It is unwise to yatter out a detailed critique. You are not in Eng Lit now. Only theatre critics have opinions about plays, and nobody eats out with them.

Don't open with how good everybody else was or discourse on the loveliness of the props. Peter Carlisle, a member of the *Thark* cast, tells of a friend who came backstage to see some old actress or other. (These stories so lovingly ferreted out by Ned Sherrin change actresses overnight. That is their joy and usefulness.) Anyway, the friend says to (insert name of doughty thespian here): "My dear, your patent leather handbag was covered in finger-marks and I couldn't take my eyes off it for a minute."

"Didn't you all work hard!" is a good, standard putdown and, if you're from up-country Basildon way, try: "How do you remember all those lines?" It should generate a frozen moment or two.

When the show is an obvious flop, too much brazen flattery may possibly alert the perspicacious actor (of whom there are a few, I am told) to the notion that you are piling it on a wee bit thick. "You are the best thing in it," covers a multitude of possibilities and leaves them with something to chew over, particularly if it was a one-man show.

The standby cover-all has been separately provided from two different sources, so it must be good, and I shall try it. Throw open the door, waggle a finger and say: "What about *you* then?" Good, don't you think? Simple, direct and wholly ambiguous.

So much for the first thing you say. It will be greeted with a curt jerk of the head and a grunt. This is what passes for modesty among actors when they are not being interviewed on the telly. The second thing to say is: "Where shall we eat?" accompanied by a jangling of credit cards. That will provide conversation for the next half hour.

But, be warned. As you sit down, the actor will lean across and ask: "What did you *really* think?" Then it's up to you.

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

THE END OF THE AFFAIR

Compensation agreed for those who lost money at the hands of Barlow Clowes, the operation which lured its customers with promises of unrealistically high rates of return, is as much a tribute to the noise the investors' group has managed to make as a comment on the validity of their claim. As we learnt in the case of the war widows, it requires more than a strong case to extract funds from the Government. It sometimes takes a campaign, and the Barlow Clowes investors organized themselves remarkably well.

It did not need a report from the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration to establish that the Department of Trade and Industry made a poor job of monitoring Barlow Clowes. This ought to have been known to the DTI itself. It was known by the Bank of England, the Inland Revenue and the Stock Exchange. It was known to the firms which the DTI was supposed to monitor and control, and Barlow Clowes was by no means the only firm to take a relaxed view of regulations. In fact, it was known to virtually everybody except those to whom it most mattered – the investors who were parting with their money.

The turnaround by the Government from the firm "no compensation" stance taken after the first inquiry into the facts of the case, conducted by Sir Godfray Le Quesne last year, to what is by any yardstick a generous offer of compensation is only partly explained by the ombudsman's report. Lord Young of Graffham, defending his department's conduct when the Le Quesne report was published in October 1988, said there was no case for compensation as his department had, in his view, acted in a way which was "careful and considered and its actions reasonable".

His conclusion was hardly supported by the facts, but his action in refusing compensation was entirely justified. Calls for instant compensation were a knee-jerk reaction on the basis that the public purse could afford the odd £100 million or so without damage. There had not, however, been any independent assessment of the DTI's liability: the department was neither damned nor exonerated, as that was not within the Le Quesne brief. Lord Young would have had no business dipping his hand into the public's pocket.

This time, however, blame has been laid at the door of the DTI and its amateurish arrangements for protecting investors. According to the ombudsman, had the DTI spotted the significance of a Barlow Clowes partnership operating from Jersey, both the UK and offshore operations would have been closed down around the end of 1984. Since most of the £190 million in Barlow Clowes came in after 1984, the ombudsman concludes that this pivotal shortcoming led directly to the losses suffered.

The DTI, in its observations on the ombudsman report, sticks to the same line as Lord Young more than a year ago. It "finds nothing" to make it change its mind, and disagrees with the ombudsman. In that case, any reasonable taxpayer should ask, why on earth is the Government planning to compensate investors? If Mr Ridley genuinely believes in the defence that his department has put up, he should have stuck to his (or Lord Young's) guns. The Barlow Clowes investors should have no claim on the public purse. Yet some investors are to get 90 per cent of their money back.

The Government has been disposed to generosity because of the extent of the financial hardship and because investors expected security, despite the high rewards. It was influenced by the common perception that the old regulatory system was both deficient and abused. And it was influenced because some investors put more trust in the DTI licence than was justified.

The ombudsman's report paints a picture black enough to merit compensation. For Barlow Clowes investors the matter is now happily closed. But the Government has done the right thing for the wrong reasons.

MOSCOW AND PEKING

It seems very much more than seven months since Mr Gorbachov travelled to Peking to normalize Soviet-Chinese relations and put an end to the 30 years feud between the two countries. The dizzying rush of events in Eastern Europe has relegated much else to the inside pages. Recently, the People's Republic, largely ostracized since the events in Tiananmen Square in June, has been reclaiming a modest amount of world attention.

This week, a senior Soviet delegation is in Peking. It is led by Mr Valentin Falin, the head of the Soviet Communist Party's foreign affairs department, and it comes hard on the heels of a visit by President Bush's national security adviser, General Brent Scowcroft – a visit which has earned the President a good deal of high-minded stick.

Mr Bush's calculation seems to have been that as a diplomatic and political weapon, outrage has a strictly limited shelf-life, and that if he wanted, for instance, to increase pressure on Peking to halt missile sales to the Middle East, or to urge the release of the dissident Fang Lizhi, breaking his own ban on high-level contact was the most effective way of doing it. Mr Bush is also well aware that since the events of May, the Soviet leader has gone out of his way to ingratiate himself with the Chinese leadership. Moscow imposed no sanctions, and has lost no opportunity to contrast the "understanding" attitude of the USSR with all the finger-wagging Peking has had to put up with from interfering Europeans and Americans.

This has not been enough to persuade the Chinese to enrol in the Gorbachov fan club. Politically, the Soviet President is viewed in Peking as a sort of sorceror's apprentice. His tolerance of pluralism in Eastern Europe is regarded as rank heresy.

The hardline Chinese Communist leadership has most emphatically not renounced the "leading role" of the party in the national life, and they believe – and possibly hope – that Mr Gorbachov's movement in that direction will end in tears. They are also very leery of the Soviet leader's ideas about economic reform. Deng Xiaoping himself embarked on an attempt to restructure the economy almost 10 years ago. Initially, the introduction of free-market mechanisms into the command economy seemed to be producing impressive results, particularly in rural areas. Well before the dislocations of this spring, however, it was plain that economic pressures were once again intensifying.

Since the flood gates opened in Eastern Europe, there has been a good deal of traffic between Peking and those parts of the communist world that seem disposed to hold out against the tide of reform. Fidel Castro, whose relations with Mr Gorbachov are notably cool, has been invited to Peking. Just before the Congress of the Romanian Communist Party last month, Qiao Shi, who is in charge of Chinese internal security, was in Bucharest – a response to Mr Ceausescu's appeal that the People's Republic should take the lead in defending communism in what he called the present "grim international situation".

The Chinese are quite supple enough, however, to pursue more than one strand of policy at a time. They see no contradiction between a campaign in the party's theoretical journals to buttress the doctrine of one-party rule and a continuation of the policy of commercial *rapprochement* with the Soviet Union.

Co-operative projects in Siberia are under discussion, and bilateral trade this year is thought to have increased by about 40 per cent. The Chinese know well enough, however, that the Soviets have next to nothing to offer in the way of technology and strictly limited opportunities in barter trade. The capital, the markets and the managerial know-how which they so badly need are available only from Europe, Japan and the United States. This week's exchanges will be characterized by modest expectations and considerable wariness.

THE COUNTRY OF TOMORROW

Brazil, the old cliché goes, is the country of tomorrow, and always will be. To Senhor Fernando Collor de Mello, final victor in its presidential poll, falls the job of turning tomorrow into today.

It is a formidable task; but that is probably why Brazil has chosen him. Opposing him in the second "run-off" stage of the election was Senhor Luis Inacio "Lula" da Silva, a trade unionist and ex-lathe operator in a car plant. His platform must have seemed much more appealing to the bulk of Brazil's 82 million-strong electorate. To a country of vast financial inequality, he offered land reform and the redistribution of wealth. To people who have not known much social justice, he promised central control and a new dawn.

Brazil's problems, however, loom too large for dreams of socialism. Senhor "Lula" moved towards the political centre during his campaign – and picked up many votes as a result. In the end, however, it was the pragmatic Senhor Collor, a vigorous young scion of the political middle classes, whose more Thatcherite approach to economics convinced the voters that he held the key to change. It was not the committed socialist Senhor "Lula" but a man who had switched party allegiances four times who won their confidence.

Senhor Collor has described himself as a liberal thinker with left-of-centre views. But it is largely the entrepreneurial business classes with whom he has been closely associated. Even so, Brazil's rural peasants were among those who in the end flocked to his banner.

One reason for this could be that over the years Brazil's voters have had their fill of inefficient state control. Both candidates pledged themselves to fight corruption. Each wielded a new broom with which to sweep away the cobwebs in Brasilia. But Senhor Collor was the more practical of the two, promising to galvanize the economy through privatization and free enterprise.

His determination to tackle Brazil's foreign debt (the world's largest at more than $100 billion) will certainly win him friends overseas. (His opponent had said he would continue the moratorium on debt servicing.) His youthful energy finally persuaded the voters at home, too, that he had a better grasp of what the priorities should be. They opted for the man rather than his party and for a man ruled by his head, not his heart.

There are those who think that by this time next year Senhor Collor's victory could look somewhat pyrrhic. He inherits a hugely depleted national exchequer and an inflation rate of around 1,500 per cent. Whoever won the presidency would have had to introduce a programme of austerity. This risks losing his temporary popularity with the electorate and promises friction with Brazil's congress.

Assuming that the political opposition tries to capitalize on the hard times lying ahead, the uneasy relationship between president and parliament is likely to grow worse after next October's parliamentary elections. On this analysis the President has earned himself the job which no one should want. The policies he is obliged to pursue will lead to his downfall and replacement.

At least the president-elect has until March to ponder the enormity of his task. He has the chance to pick his ministers with care and plan the policies which together they must follow. Whatever construction one may place on this election (the country's first democratic presidential poll for 29 years) the result represents a clear mandate for change. Senhor Collor will have to show prudence and maturity. But he will also need to be bold if he is really to bring tomorrow a little nearer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Refugees and economic gain

From the Editor of Asian Affairs
Sir, The Vietnamese currently in Hong Kong are in the process of forcing themselves on other people with a view to eventual economic gain – and it should not be thought that passive agents cannot apply force (witness the contribution of Gandhi's tactics to the demise of the British Raj in India). Their status is radically different from that of the boat people, mainly of Chinese origins, who during the late 1970s and early 1980s were escaping from a communist regime newly flushed with victory and eager to root out and persecute the capitalist enemy.

These days a Vietnam racked with poverty (mostly of her own making) and perhaps not so ideologically sure of herself would think twice about maltreating returned refugees in the glare of international publicity.

Barbara Amiel (Friday Page, December 15) and other commentators have quite rightly said that the only lasting way to stop the flow of refugees is by helping to rehabilitate Vietnam. Now that Vietnamese troops have left Cambodia, this can presumably be done. But it may take a long time for results to show (cf., *perestroika* in the USSR). Meanwhile how many Vietnamese will sail to Hong Kong, if not stopped – 50,000; 100,000; 250,000?

One thing seems certain; they will keep on coming as long as there is the slightest chance of eventually being accepted by a Western country and as long as there are boat-owners to make money out of this traffic.
Yours faithfully,
R. A. LONGMIRE,
Editor, *Asian Affairs*,
Langdale, Little Bookham Street,
Bookham, Surrey.
December 15.

From Mr Jacques A. Arnold, MP for Gravesham (Conservative)
Sir, The White House condemnation (report, December 13) of the repatriation to Vietnam of illegal immigrants from Hong Kong is hypocritical. Every year the United States deports many thousands of illegal immigrants from Latin America in not dissimilar circumstances, whom they describe in derogatory terms as "Spics".

Hong Kong has neither the space nor the facilities to accommodate the rapidly increasing numbers of Vietnamese migrants. Significantly the United States has not offered to accommodate them in the USA, either permanently or "until the situation in Vietnam returns to normality".

Instead of sanctimonious condemnation, the US Government might reflect on its own responsibility for delivering the Vietnamese people into the clutches of the Hanoi regime, and for the destruction of much of that country's infrastructure.
Yours faithfully,
JACQUES ARNOLD,
House of Commons.
December 14.

From Mr Gavin Harris
Sir, Mr Chris Bale, Director of Oxfam Hong Kong (December 15), makes the case for economic aid to the Government of Vietnam and claims that it is only poverty that has caused so many of that country's people to flee to Hong Kong.

Does Oxfam thus support the British Government's position that the refugees are simply economic migrants; or is it, as a registered charity, choosing to isolate itself from politics and ignore the terror and oppression that exist in communist Vietnam?
Yours faithfully,
G. HARRIS,
77 Osbaldeston Road, N16.
December 15.

From Mr Gerard Noel
Sir, The plight of the Hong Kong boat people – in the absence of statesmanlike US reaction – has elicited protest reaching almost hysteria levels. Much worse, however, was the pre-war fate of certain genuine refugees (as opposed to economic migrants) who, in far greater numbers, suffered grievously through British policy.

These were the Jews trying to escape from Germany but, because of the notorious 1939 (Malcolm MacDonald) White Paper – a betrayal of our obligations under the Mandate – were barred from immigration into Palestine. Many were, at point of attempted entry, sent back to face certain death.

It was largely lack of public protest that allowed this to happen – with tragic consequences for the future.
Yours faithfully,
GERARD NOEL
(Editorial Director),
The Catholic Herald,
Herald House, Lamb's Passage,
Bunhill Row, EC1.
December 17.

How to speed up wheels of the law

From Mr T. Wilson Goad
Sir, The House of Lords debates today the Courts and Legal Services Bill, which will allow banks and building societies to undertake "in-house" conveyancing, and later, matters relating to probate, under the pretence that this will be cheaper and quicker than the service presently provided by solicitors.

I am put in mind of the words uttered by my master during my articles in Cumbria over 40 years ago, when he advised me never to appoint a bank executor under a will. All they do, so he said, is to charge 1 per cent "before lifting a pen" and something like 6 per cent in total, "and all this for simply acting as book-keepers"; whereas a solicitor would do the lot, including professional advice, for 2 per cent. I do not believe that has changed.

As for delays, one has to recall that Parliament introduced *compulsory registration of title* to property some years ago "to speed up transactions and make them cheaper". What has happened? Local authorities take something like six weeks to return a search and the Land Registry take anything up to 12 months to effect a registration. They also charge heavy fees which go up yearly. Nothing is cheaper, and certainly not quicker.

Solicitors could easily solve the matter by incorporating their own bank, their own building society, and their own estate agency. They would be the biggest, the cheapest, and the quickest in no time.

I am not in the least worried about any competition because (a) I am too old and (b) my clients come to me because they know me and not because I am the cheapest.

The President of the Law Society probably does not agree with me, but he may not strike me off because, like me, he lives in Cumbria!
Yours faithfully,
T. WILSON GOAD,
Norwood Fields,
Casterton, Cumbria.
December 19.

From Mr Stephen J. Hall
Sir, Roger Henderson, QC, urging (December 12) that the concept of the "interests of justice" should be included as a primary condition in the statutory objectives of the Courts and Legal Services Bill, omits to refer to paragraph 2.1 of the White Paper. This states explicitly that the arrangements for the provision of legal services in advocacy and in the conduct of litigation should be simple and clear.

The response of various members of the judiciary and the Bar over the period of the Green Paper, the White Paper, and now the Bill demonstrates, I suggest, just how important it is for the Act to lay down in simple and clear language what the statutory objectives are to be. If the concept of the "interests of justice" is to be included as a primary condition in the objectives, I fear that the lawyers will be arguing for years as to what that concept actually means.

In particular I fear that the senior judges will be tempted to use that concept to frustrate the intention of that part of the Bill which will allow solicitor advocates to exercise rights of audience in many cases where not only are they sufficiently experienced and competent to do so, but also where their doing so would give greater choice of advocate to the public.
Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN J. HALL,
Wynne Baxter Godfree,
Dial House, 221 High Street,
Lewes, East Sussex.

Saving rhinos

From Dr Robin Pellew
Sir, It is a sorry manifestation of a conservation disaster that we have to depend upon the relocation of rhinos into heavily-guarded sanctuaries to save the species from extinction. Yet even the rescue mission being organised by Adam Faith (Spectrum, December 18) will fail if it does not address the fundamental cause of the problem – a rhino has got to be worth more alive than dead to the local African people.

Unless the project tackles the thorny problem of winning the support of rural people at the community rather than the Government level the rhinos will still be poached, irrespective of their location. Success is more likely if the local people can see real advantages accruing to them personally from the project. The relocation must therefore be part of a broad-based community development programme that generates long-term material benefits, and which provides the motivation for the local people to see the project work.

Mr Faith sets an outstanding example of personal commitment. For the future of Tanzania's rhinos, he deserves all the support he can get – but long-term success will be achieved only if people as well as wildlife benefit.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN PELLEW (Director),
World Conservation Monitoring Centre,
219c Huntingdon Road,
Cambridge.
December 19.

Straw-burning ban

From the Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Sir, I was rather surprised that Mr Lowe (December 9), while critical of the decision to ban straw-burning, failed to give any recognition of the enormous public nuisance which it causes.

This year the problems have been particularly serious. There have been problems of smuts and smoke filling people's homes and drifting across roads, in some cases with disastrous results. My department alone has received 600 letters of complaint, many from MPs on behalf of their constituents and from local authorities who have responsibility for enforcing the local bye-laws. Many people have, doubtless, suffered in silence.

Far from the minister losing credibility with the farming community, it is the public's image of the farmer which is most at risk by a continuation of this practice. Many farmers, including cereal growers who have already given up this method of straw disposal, have written supporting a ban. Indeed, the NFU, in proposing a licensing system, made clear that they wished burning to come to be regarded as the exceptional rather than the normal means of disposing of straw.

The Government does recognise that there are disadvantages as well as benefits in prohibiting burning. They were taken fully into account and the decision to delay introduction of the ban until late 1992 reflects our concern to give farmers time to adjust their cultivation techniques.
Yours faithfully,
TRUMPINGTON,
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,
Whitehall Place, SW1.
December 15.

One man in a car

From Mr Jack Griffiths
Sir, A simple scheme to deter the one-person-per-car problem (letters, December 16) is to base the parking fee on the number of occupants. I saw this in operation in Seattle recently, where car pooling schemes are encouraged. One person in a car paid $5; two paid $4; three paid $2, whilst four enjoyed free parking.
Yours faithfully,
JACK GRIFFITHS,
5 Jersey Road, Ferring by Sea,
Worthing, West Sussex.

Church leadership

From Mr R. C. Macdonald
Sir, As I read Clifford Longley's article, "Manacled to a spiritual corpse" (December 2), I was reminded of some words used by Archbishop William Temple in his last broadcast before his death in 1944:

The war is a judgment on the Church. It shows how little the Church has penetrated and moulded the civilizations in which it has been placed, but the concern of the Church is not to help the world to avoid the consequences of sin while it goes on indulging in sin.
The Church might have called louder and more effectively. Its members might have set a much better example. But the only way open to the Church is by persuading men and women to change their outlook – that is, to repent. If the world neglects that, the Church can do no more for it and ought not to do any more for it.

Our nation has to decide whether it proposes to adopt a materialistic or an idealistic attitude to life – whether its ultimate convictions are "temporal" or "eternal". Such a view will largely determine the trend and pattern, not only of its own life but that of its children also.

There is nothing new about this. The ancient Greeks understood it well enough, and the charge can certainly not be levelled at the Church of England or its leadership that it does not. Day in and day out, throughout the parishes of England, by word and sacrament the lesson is faithfully taught and the choice presented. More than this it cannot do or should be expected to do.
Yours faithfully,
RONALD MACDONALD,
6 Scotsdale Close,
Cheam, Sutton, Surrey.

Retail competition

From Mr Richard D. Orage
Sir, The letter from Mr Richard Webster (November 24), expressing anxiety about the survival of the independent bookseller in the wake of the probable collapse of the Net Book Agreement, echoes the same fears expressed by other trades at the abolition of resale price maintenance, from which books, uniquely, were exempted.

Competition in the high street results, as Mr Webster implies, in a price war in the best-selling items, often supported by heavy advertising, and the loss of business to the independent makes it more difficult to finance the slow-selling background stock which forms the bulk of his stock-in-trade. Many will be forced to close and many more will relocate in less expensive premises away from the high street; but, as surviving independents in the toy trade will bear witness, many will thrive.

It is inescapable that the number of knowledgeable staff is reduced, but the public will vote with their wallets and shop where they are best suited. It is not inevitable that the large chains, enjoying massive discounts, win every round.

We may welcome or deplore the changes in the high street over the years since the abolition of resale price maintenance and the enormous increases in rents and rates, but adaptation is the key to survival for businesses as for species.
Yours faithfully,
RICHARD D. ORAGE
(President, British Association of Toy Retailers),
Nuttall's Farm,
Russell's Water Common,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number – (01)782 5046.

Curtain down on music matinées?

From Mr A. J. Beale
Sir, For the past 12 years the Royal Opera House has been putting on special matinées for the sole benefit of schoolchildren. These matinées are not rehearsals; they are real performances from the current repertory, with full international casts.

Children from all over the country have been introduced to opera and ballet for no more than a nominal ticket cost. This is backed by a highly motivated educational department who in their turn visit the schools, demonstrating that this kind of theatre is not the exclusive entertainment it may appear to be. I know that my own pupils value and enjoy the experience, and there is little doubt that others do as well.

Sadly, cut-backs and lack of sponsors mean that this splendour may have to end. I understand that the cost of the matinée is between £180,000 and £300,000 per annum. In terms of running a major opera house, this seems a very small sum of money to spend for such rich benefits.

With so many cuts in other fields of the arts and education, not to mention the latest threat to Kent Opera, exactly what kind of world are we creating, where the balancing of books becomes so obsessive?
Yours faithfully,
A. J. BEALE (Headmaster),
Tower House School,
188 Sheen Lane,
East Sheen, SW14.
December 14.

TV's sports coverage

From the Managing Director, Network Television, BBC
Sir, The issue of who should televise the Derby is a simple one. Tim Neligan, the Managing Director of United Racecourses (December 16) charges the BBC with televising the event only once in the 1980s. The reason is, as he makes clear, that ITV/Channel 4 have the exclusive contract for racing at Epsom.

What Mr Neligan fails to say is that last year he urged the BBC to televise the Derby on BBC-1 because he wanted a bigger audience for his sponsor. We decided against covering the race because we are against duplication and avoid it whenever possible.

Major sporting events – like the Derby, the Grand National, the FA Cup and so on – are national events which should be available nationally. The BBC does not seek exclusive coverage; we want to ensure that these major events remain available to all viewers, not just those who are able to subscribe to cable and satellite services.

Twelve, thirteen, fifteen million people should not be deprived of events to which they have been accustomed.
Yours faithfully,
PAUL FOX, Managing Director,
Network Television,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Wood Lane, W12.
December 18.

BBC house rules

From Mr Ian Curteis
Sir, Mr Howell James assures us (December 15) that the BBC is being fair and even-handed in its public examination of the likely effects of the Broadcasting Bill.

He also confirms that the Campaign for Quality Broadcasting – a body, as Lord Orr-Ewing points out (December 11), implacably opposed to our elected Government's policies – was given 10 minutes' air time all to itself to propagandize its views, using BBC equipment and facilities and licence-payers' money.

My information is that no opportunity to make a similar film has been offered to those who believe the main girders of the Bill to be highly desirable. Surely the needs and wishes of the public are just as valid as the threatened vested interests of some broadcasters masquerading under a great deal of pious humbug about standards.
Yours truly,
IAN CURTEIS,
The Mill House, Coln St Aldwyns,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.
December 18.

Heritage assets

From Mr John Birtles
Sir, The President of the Historic Houses Association has drawn attention (December 5) to the difficulty of maintaining heritage assets from revenue that has borne income tax. If the use of a maintenance fund for preserving certain assets merits freedom from capital taxation in the interest of the public and the nation then, subject to the same rules which govern any breach of an existing agreement, it is difficult to see why the exemption should not cover all taxation.
Yours faithfully,
JOHN BIRTLES,
Royal Agricultural College,
School of Rural Economy and Land Management,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.
December 6.

Rule of the road

From Mr Stephen P. T. Hedley
Sir, Does the Secretary of State for Transport believe in the maxim that "traffic expands to fill the roads available" – or is that just Parkinson's law?
Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN P. T. HEDLEY,
24 Springfield Road,
Teddington, Middlesex.
December 19.

● SOME REVIEWS MAY BE REPRINTED FROM YESTERDAY'S LATER EDITIONS

THE ARTS

Rich and colourful journeys

TELEVISION
Jasper Rees

Made in Latin America (BBC2), a beginner's guide to the troubled continent, went out with a bang. It was a regrettably fitting end, as the bang terminated the life of a Colombian presidential candidate who was not on the cocaine barons' payola list.

As in the world's other troublespots, death in Colombia would appear to be the only certainty. By way of illustration, the film cut from the crackle of gunfire which prematurely ended Luis Carlos Galan's candidacy to a speech he made predicting the event: "One day I'll be on the news and children at their desks will grieve for my early death."

Galan said this in an address to a spectacularly well-attended poetry conference in Medellin, which had convened to consider the role of poetry in the time of the assassin. It was evident that Latin America has not got it all wrong. As in Eastern Europe, political unrest has given the artist a pronounced significance in society.

This series has done the obligatory rounds of the Latin American magic realists, and in the final episode it was the turn of the 1982 Nobel Laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez. He said that the generic label was an invention of the Europeans, who "classify us as exotic birds", while a painter classified the continent's northern neighbour, "an anaconda called the USA", as *conquistadores*.

Another painter, who pointed out that "the worst thing for an artist is to be liked by a drugs baron", had a particular loathing for Hollywood because its heroes provided Colombian drugs barons with guidelines on machismo. Which brings us back to the bang at the end of part eight. Latin America did not necessarily make any more sense than it did at the beginning of part one, but full marks to the series for making the effort.

Bandung File, one of the few programmes which survive from Channel 4's launch, also went down with all guns blazing, though the firing was aimed at the commissioning editors who are pulling it off the screen. The 20th and final programme in the fourth and final series profiled another Nobel Laureate, the Egyptian novelist Nagaib Mahfouz who, on one of his daily morning walks, gave the film crew a guided tour of his native Cairo.

This was also a guided tour of his 35 novels, which are all set in, and in some cases named after, the city's streets. Mahfouz persists in these walks despite the fact that one of those novels has provoked fundamentalist death threats. As the cameras followed him, he delightfully stage-whispered to a younger fellow-novelist: "The TV crew don't realize that they are in the richest part of Egypt". A voice-over bade farewell as the credits rolled: Channel 4 do not realize that we are in the richest vein of cultural broadcasting, it seemed to be saying.

NEXT WEEK

On Boxing Day: Craig Brown sums up Eighties television

Adrian Dannatt fills in the background to the first Russian-language issue of a western glossy magazine

Exporting the avant-garde

The first western glossy magazine to seize advantage of *glasnost* and publish a cyrillic edition for Soviet distribution is neither *Elle* nor *Marxism Today*, even Robert Maxwell has been outsmarted in this ideologically sound venture.

As if to prove that the arts are in the vanguard of change, the first such publication is *Flash Art*, the influential – perhaps notorious – journal of international contemporary art practice, which is already distributed in English, Italian and Spanish editions, and is soon to be available in Japanese, too.

Over 23 years, *Flash Art* has established itself as the arbiter and decimator of post-post-post culture, its interests geared to the farthest reaches of the avant-garde, where few dare to venture. Edited and published by Giancarlo Politi and Helena Kontova from Milan, its largest influence has always been in America, where it is regarded as the yardstick of funky integrity, a heady collision of the painfully modish and the numbingly serious. The magazine of those who consider conceptualism conservative, it has been criticized as being unreadable, over-intellectual and obsessively fashionable.

Peter Fuller's old fashioned *Modern Painters* was set up almost entirely as a reaction to the excesses of *Flash Art*, a riposte to the cool, clever poses of New York art stars and to the magazine which supports, perhaps invents, but certainly never explains them. Of course, with the sort of deadpan irony and icy sophistication that is the forte of such stars, the magazine proclaims its fashionable, controversial status by its very title. After all, one can hardly attack something called *Flash* for being flashy. For all its pretension, the magazine so dominates the contemporary art world that work is now labelled "very flash art", and art students throughout the world study its pages as an unfailing barometer of trends.

Flash Art has always been interested in developments behind the Iron Curtain. Kontova is East European, and the editors have regularly devoted space to the Soviet avant-garde. After many years' planning, the first Russian-language edition has been an enormous success, selling out a print run of 15,000 (10,000 in the Soviet Union and 5,000 in the naturally curious Western market) – a highly respectable figure for any art journal. The distributors initially demanded an extraordinary 100,000, which they were certain they could sell. It retails at



Already a collectors' item: the cover of the first Russian-language edition of *Flash Art*

15 roubles, or 10 dollars in the USA, and is distributed in Moscow and Leningrad largely by a film distribution company, Kinematocraficheskiy Fond. Naturally the costs were high, but undoubtedly they represent a worthwhile investment.

Perhaps the most intriguing aspects of the magazine are the advertisements, in cyrillic, for galleries in Milan and New York. They are placed not only by those who deal (increasingly profitably) in Soviet art, but also by those who want to establish identities and get a stake in the market before it opens up. The product is as glossy as its western counterpart. A second issue is planned for April 1990, and the third may be printed in Moscow: already negotiations are underway with *Moscow News* magazine. But the editors are determined not to compromise the high quality of production.

The purpose and popularity of this Russian issue make clear that Soviets want to read not about recent Soviet art, but rather about what is going on in New York and the rest of the West. This edition does not intend to serve the curiosity of dealers and collectors hungry to know more about Leningrad Performance Artists, but the many Soviets who hunger for information on the latest theoretical and practical movements in America or Italy.

There are difficulties and differences, which make this exchange all the more stimulating. The western work presented by *Flash Art* deals with notions of consumerism, reproduction and banality; it is involved with issues of mass communication, high technology, world media and ubiquitous advertising. It is almost obsessive about the operations of capitalism. The Soviet Union lacks all of this, and is primitive in cultural theory, free of many of the -isms of our sophisticated society.

On a recent trip to Moscow Kontova realized that feminism was relatively unknown, and that the arguments of American feminist artists leave Soviets bemused. Apparently many Soviet artists and writers suspected that the magazine's texts were deliberately impenetrable, a western ploy at utter baffilement – it must be admitted that some western readers share their suspicion.

Doubtless the customs men are by now well versed in the hermeneutic dialectic of simulation, as every publication entering the Soviet Union has to be read cover to cover for official approval. Indeed, the distributor feared that *Flash Art* might not get through at all (it was held up at Moscow customs for several days), due to a special project inside by Milan Kunc which features Lenin's head obscured by a giant hamburger and Coca-Cola can.

Western artists are interested in the Soviet Union in the way anthropologists might seize on an undiscovered Stone Age tribe. They want to observe a different sort of avant-garde, dealing with a very different context. In return, the Soviets are obsessed with the smooth, slick practices of America, and with an art which reflects, and perhaps exaggerates, the processes of advanced capitalism. And the galleries, as their advertising makes clear, are looking for the next big buck, for a Julian Schnabel or Andy Warhol limbering in some Lithuanian suburb. It almost goes without saying that the first Russian-language issue of *Flash Art*, with its specially-created front cover by Anselm Kiefer, is already a collector's item in decadent Manhattan.

Chops 'n' changes

JAZZ
Clive Davis

Modern Jazz Sextet
Pizza Express

No relation to John Lewis's Modern Jazz Quartet, the Pizza Express Modern Jazz Sextet is in fact the latest house band to be installed at the cellar venue in Dean Street, Soho. In the five weeks since it began its Monday night sessions, the group has gone through almost as many changes of name, originally starting out as Junius, then briefly appearing as the Dean Street All Stars.

Just as the name was slow in coming, so the musicians are still groping towards a collective identity. At this week's performance two of the members – drummer Mark Taylor and bassist Alec Dankworth – were absent, their places taken by Paul Davis and Malcolm Crease. The front line was also one player short at first, with saxophonist Dave O'Higgins arriving a few minutes after the start of the set.

While most of his recent work has been with the fusion bands Roadside Picnic and Gang of Three, O'Higgins has not had too much difficulty in re-adjusting to the hard bop repertoire of the sextet. His experience with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra clearly helps. For the time being, though, the dominant personality is Alan Barnes, a ridiculously under-rated alto player who is equally at home in the Humphrey Lyttelton Band and the much trendier Jazz Renegades.

After the strident blowing of the opening numbers – overpowering in so confined a space – it was left to Barnes to establish a note of intimacy with "Sweet And Lovely". Adopting a glowing, Johnny Hodges tone, he provided a yearning ballad performance which brought the best out of the other players.

Apart from pianist Mark Fitzgibbon, the principal soloist is Gerard Presencer, a phenomenally gifted trumpeter who is scarcely old enough to buy a drink at the bar. Observers as astute as Warren Vaché have already singled him out as one of Europe's best young soloists. His performance here, studied and not overladen with tricks of the trade, indicated that he already possesses the confidence to compete at the highest level.

RECITAL
Paul Griffiths

McChrystal/Smith
Wigmore Hall

Startling talent is rather expected at the Ivan Sutton Recording Prize Recital, whose alumni include the Bochmann Quartet and Anne Sofie von Otter. And startling talent there was this time from two young instrumentalists: the violinist Simon Smith and the saxophone player Gerard McChrystal.

Smith is a virtuoso who is at once darkly cool and immensely persuasive: he is seemingly reserved in often preferring a tone that is close to a viola, and in refraining from the subjective bravado of "expressive" playing, but he is massively confident, massively present in his control of tone and effect, and above all in his steadfast phrasing, his ability to make a long melody arch forward, powerfully supported by an urge that remains unrevealed.

There are extraordinary gifts here, and Smith did include one piece to draw attention to them: the Szymanowski *Nocturne and Tarantella*, which is full of evocative shadow, brilliantly precise pizzicato arpeggios, and marvellous, pearly harmonics. But otherwise, in Schumann's A minor Sonata and Dallapiccola's Two Studies, this was selfless playing, devoted to making the music exist as fully as possible. The Dallapiccola performance was especially remarkable for Smith's depth of knowledge and conviction, his unerring way of making a complex line firm and impressive. For a half recital, his programme was certainly varied enough, but one was left wanting to hear him in an even greater range of music – indeed, in almost anything from Bach to Berio.

McChrystal's repertory might appear more limited, but he began with a Bach Sonata in G minor that splendidly showed the possibilities of the soprano saxophone as a baroque instrument: bright and agile as a trumpet, but with vocal qualities of colour and shading. Then came Paul Creston's Sonata, a showpiece for the alto saxophone and for McChrystal's nice combination of supreme skill with a quiet sensitivity. The instrument and much of its music are made for a jazz-style self-projection, but he asks us to hear it also as a vehicle for a wide range of colours and for extraordinary pianissimos.

The third sonata he played was a new one, by the Derry composer Kevin O'Connell. It is expertly laid out in four movements, the outer ones stark and declamatory around a two-part invention (in which the player switches from alto to soprano) and a brief humoresque. McChrystal and his accompanist Kathryn Lenehan gave a fine performance, encouraging one to want to hear what this composer can achieve when he does not have Bach and Hindemith on his piano and Carter and Copland in his head.

DONALD COOPER



Cousins: Karita Mattila (left, as Agathe), Judith Howarth as Annchen

No danger of any laughs here

OPERA
John Higgins

Der Freischütz
Covent Garden

A sad tale's best for winter, perhaps. There is little jollity in Götz Friedrich's staging of *Der Freischütz*, first seen in 1977 and now deferentially and effectively restaged by Wolfgang Backer. A dropcloth announces that the action of Weber's opera takes place "shortly after the end of the Thirty Years' War", but the skeletal trees in the Bohemian forest look as though they have been napalmed rather than merely scorched. There is a general feeling of bitterness in the air from the start as the peasants, led by Kilian (impressive performance from Bruno Caproni) turn on the huntsman Max with their chorus of mockery.

The strength of Friedrich's misanthropic vision is that he manages to skirt all the laughs that so often attend on *Freischütz*. The Wolf's Glen, where those magic bullets are cast at midnight, is a fearsome place where the tree trunks form themselves (courtesy Günther Schneider-Siemssen) into the pointed chins and evil eyes of forest spirits. Max even has a steep mountain path to clamber down before he consorts with the demon Black Hunter, Samiel, who makes several appearances in the skeletal shape of Roderick Earle. All Weber is there apart from the human resilience portrayed in the peasant dances.

Covent Garden has assembled an exceptionally strong cast, probably the best seen so far in this production. Max requires a *Heldentenor*, and René Kollo over the years remains just that. There is a hint of a rasp at the top, but the broad, open voice rings out in "Durch die Wälder" and there is plenty of lyrical power left to lead the final chorus of obedience to the dictates of heaven. There are few tenors around to challenge Kollo's Max and even fewer basses likely to surpass the Caspar of Hartmut Welker, a snarling and malevolent villain, at once aggressive and cringing.

There have been one or two doubts over whether Karita Mattila, who burst upon the scene four or five years ago, was going to fulfil all that early promise. But she is certainly back to form with her Agathe, spinning Weber's long soprano line with creamy tone in both her arias and looking as dreamy as a young Tatyana. Judith Howarth, who has been having a season of high success so far, avoids making Annchen, the tiresome creature, too close a relation of Pollyanna and nips out her cheer-up ditties in great style.

Surprisingly, the weakest contributions at the moment come from Sir Colin Davis and the orchestra. Davis has lived with this opera from his Sadler's Wells days, but on the opening night was over-reflective and lacking in energy. At times the sound was ingratiating, but *Freischütz* also has the whiff of the *Gasthaus* about it and this was nowhere to be scented.

Meeting the challenge

CONCERT
Stephen Pettitt

BBC SO/Davis
Festival Hall

There was no doubt about the high point in this Royal Philharmonic Society concert: it occurred immediately Dmitry Sitkovetsky began his performance of Shostakovich's First Violin Concerto. The work is among the more confidently structured, and to my mind, least enigmatic of this composer's symphonic pieces, and in the hands of a violinist of this stature it banishes lingering suspicions about the quality of Shostakovich's art.



Solo violin: Dmitri Sitkovetsky

The dark, long and slow opening movement is possibly the toughest challenge for the soloist. Sitkovetsky graced it with a well-matched timbre and instinctive, spontaneous-seeming phrasing, never allowing the enormity of the structure to cause him to hurry.

The Scherzo, on the other hand, was an excuse for violinistic pyrotechnics, although even here there was a thoughtful quality to Sitkovetsky's playing which, with the BBC Symphony Orchestra's crisp woodwind section, helped to create a powerful whirlwind of a piece. One can judge the flavour of this movement by noting that it does not dissipate the shadows of the first, but instead prepares us for the funereal steps of the succeeding Passacaglia, another massive slow movement.

Here Shostakovich reveals his melodic gifts at their most eloquent, and Sitkovetsky rose to the challenge once more, with his clear vision of form and the sort of commitment which refuses to admit an instant of self-indulgence. This applied even to the extravagant cadenza linking this music with the final, distorted Burlesque, where, as throughout the work, the conductor, Andrew Davis, secured some impressive orchestral playing.

Afterwards we heard the 1947 version of Stravinsky's *Petrushka*, given a clean rather than gutsy performance, as befits the nature of the composer's re-scoring, although there were one or two hazardous moments for which the strings were responsible. There was some fine solo work, however, not least from John Alley (piano), David Butt (flute) and William Houghton (trumpet), all of whom received due individual acknowledgement at the end. Another soloist, the baritone David Wilson-Johnson, had earlier brought life to the vocal version of Prokofiev's suite *Lieutenant Kije* with his convincingly Russian-flavoured singing in the "Romance" and the "Troika".

Platform for youth

THEATRE
Irving Wardle

Captain Stirrick
Lilian Baylis

Besides the distant shade of John Gay, one can discern some more recent theatrical ghosts behind Jeremy James Taylor and David Scott's junior version of *The Beggar's Opera*. Its Regency tale of the orphaned Ned Stirrick and his gang of child pickpockets has strong echoes of Bart's *Oliver!*, and the succession of robust old England shows which first defined the policy of Bernard Miles's Mermaid Theatre.

In this latest National Youth Music Theatre revival, this version also picks up on the community drama movement to re-emerge in a promenade production. This is entirely in key with the piece, which is about ragged children fighting to survive in a world of adult exploitation and thrusting crowds; and it is splendidly set, by Alison Cartledge, on a central ramp and platform which carry equal conviction as a bleak house of correction, Smithfield Fair, and as the desolate Thames-side wharf where Ned is finally run to ground.

Taylor's production does not yet live up to its environment. The actors in his young company are clearly having a whale of a time as picturesque destitutes, pushing each other around, firing off their rude one-liners, and forming up for rollicking unison choruses. But their lines, spoken and sung, are often inaudible, and all the milling activity swamps the narrative line.

Beginning in jail, going into flashback (with the jail inmates changing character into the gang), and then switching to the hero's fascination with puppets, the stop-go opening narrative is liable anyway to run off the rails. It needs to be held on course by a boy hero who has both the authority of a leader and the unloved vulnerability of a lost child. That is great deal to ask of a pre-adolescent actor. Danny Nutt's Ned, wearing his dead father's redcoat, looks great in the part, and combines toughness with likeability. His direct, extrovert playing finally pays off when the narrative lines converge upon a moment that is at once down-to-earth and terrifying, when he beheads a puppet and then knifes a boy who is both his antagonist and a hated side of himself.

From that moment onwards, with a giant effigy of Punch arising from his delirious fantasy, bonily-scored part-songs, and the gently fatalistic commentary of a lone ballad singer, the show becomes thrilling and beautiful: a children's piece without the sentimentality of its adult models.



Tough, likeable performance: Danny Nutt as Ned in *Captain Stirrick*

Going to great lengths to change your mind

Jeremy Kingston

Circus Moon
Half Moon

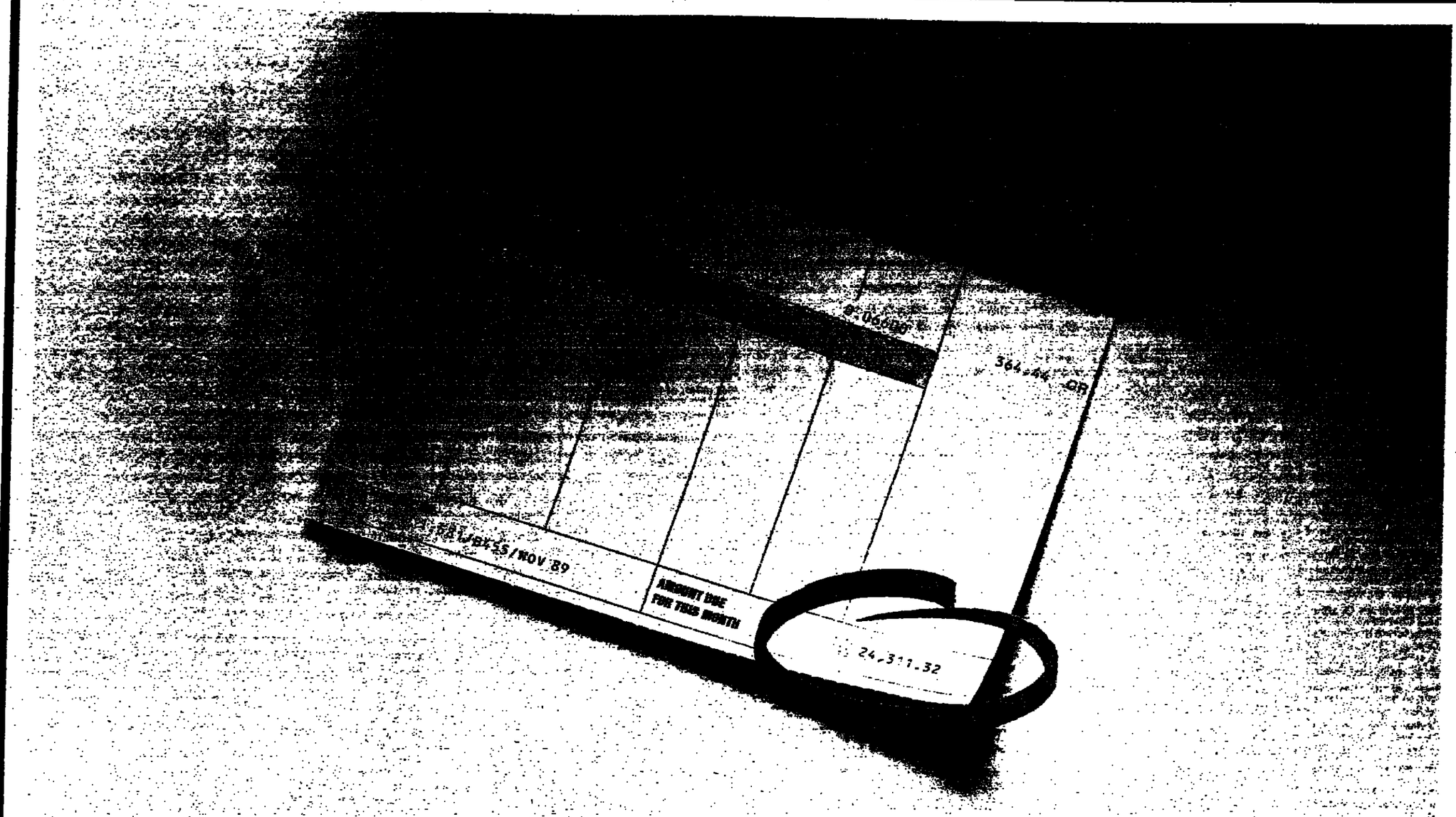
It is years since I sat in a tent and watched plumed horses change direction at the crack of a whip and elephants squeeze their great feet on to tubs. I hated them all, and the clowns – especially the clowns, who presumably worked there from choice, hard though this was to credit. The animals, I felt, would at least trample their trainers to death if let off the leash.

The Half Moon's Christmas show has no clowns and no animals, though a nod to the past is given when the moon-faced André Vincent animates two glove-puppet tigers on the roof of a clapped-out Cortina. With jaws like the George Sanders' Shere Khan in *The Jungle Book*, his fun-fur felines freeze into obedience at the sound of the whip and show us just what we are fortunately missing. Vincent is also the closest approach to a clown, enduring in the Fatty Arbuckle manner, a nimble heavyweight in a team of snake-hipped acrobats.

John Turner, formerly director of Circus Senso, has staged this show as a display-case for the unnerving lengths to which the human muscle will stretch when suspended from a trapeze, and to show the scarcely-credible feats of co-ordination possible between hand and eye when men throw oranges or hock bottles at one another. He places these acts within a setting of songs which pretend that the performers meet nightly at the Café of Dreams, a club permanently under threat of closure from a bureaucrat on stilts. This lofty monster, topped with a mask grinning like a pterodactyl, makes regular entries to spoil the fun, so giving the evening a modest structure.

The songs are sung by Turner as a seedy exile from some *film noir*, and, so far as I could hear them, had no great charm. I could have done without them, but they may be necessary to give the acrobats time to get their breath back.

What makes the evening exhilarating is the evidently good-natured team-work of the performers; they have individual specialities – break-neck tumbling over tables, skipping through a lariat while on tiptoe on a wire – but between times they come together for intricately choreographed set-pieces in which juggling, leaping and spinning couples court disaster and miss it by millimeters. Amazing.



Buying power.

If you're using this much power, the chances are you're a 1 megawatt user.

Which means you could soon have much more buying power, when you're buying power.

Because in the very near future you could have the opportunity to buy your electricity direct.

Where?

From National Power, who, with over 40 power stations, are the biggest manufacturer of electricity in England and Wales.

Because we're in competition, we're determined to be more competitive. In every aspect of our operation.

For instance we can tailor contracts to your specific needs.

Just as we can with billing arrangements.

We can provide opportunities for co-generation and joint ventures in energy.

We can arrange for prices to be index linked to provide predictability on longer term contracts. And offer aggregated terms for multiple sites.

To start negotiations for a competitive deal, write now to Peter Hare, Direct Sales Manager, National Power Energy Direct, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate St., London, EC1A 7AU.

National Power

National Power is currently a division of the CEGB

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 19: The Queen, Air Commodore-in-Chief, received Air Commodore I. Horrocks upon relinquishing his appointment as Commandant of the Royal Observer Corps and Air Commodore G.M. Boddy upon assuming the appointment.

General Sir Brian Kenny had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon relinquishing his appointment as Commander, Northern Army Group and Commander-in-Chief, British Army of the Rhine.

The Queen held a Council at 12.30pm.

There were present: The Right Hon. Sir Geoffrey Howe, M.P. (Lord President), the Right Hon. David Waddington, M.P. (Secretary of State for the Home Department), the Right Hon. Norman Fowler, M.P. (Secretary of State for Employment), the Right Hon. John Wakeham, M.P. (Secretary of State for Energy), the Right Hon. Kenneth Baker, M.P. (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster), the Right Hon. John Major, M.P. (Chancellor of the Exchequer) and the Right Hon. Peter Morrison, MP (Minister of State, Department of Energy.) Mr Geoffrey de Deney was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon. Sir Geoffrey Howe, M.P. had an audience of Her Majesty before the Council.

The Queen, Patron, and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended the "Joy of the World" Concert to mark the 70th Anniversary of the Save the Children Fund at the Royal Albert Hall.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received by The Princess Royal (President, Save the Children Fund) and the Viscount Boyd of Merton (Chairman).

The Hon. Mary Morrison, Sir William Heseltine, Mr Kenneth Scott, Mr Robin Janvrin and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Viscount Long (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this morning upon the departure of the Governor-General of Barbados and Lady Springer and bade farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

The Hon. Mary Morrison has succeeded the Lady Susan Hussey as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

CLARENCE HOUSE
December 19: The Lady Angela Oswald has succeeded the Lady Elizabeth Basset as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 19: The Prince of Wales, Patron, Spectator Thomas Cranmer Schools Prize, presented the Prize at St. James's Church, Garlickhythe, EC4. Mr David Wright and Mr. Richard Arbiter were in attendance.

His Royal Highness received the Prime Minister at St. James's Palace, SW1.

The Prince of Wales gave a dinner to guests from a number of European Countries, at Kensington Palace, W8.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 19: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Transport, this morning received Major General Peter Blunt on relinquishing the appointment as Colonel Commandant. Her Royal Highness also received Major General Derek Braggins on assuming the appointment of Representative Colonel Commandant 1990.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 19: The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, this evening attended the annual Westminster Cathedral Christmas Celebration. Her Royal Highness was attended by Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.J. Anderson and Miss D.L. Hoare
The engagement is announced between John, son of Captain and Mrs R.H. Anderson, of Sanderstead, Surrey, and Diana, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J.H. Hoare, of Weaponness House, Scarborough. N Yorks.

Mr C.P. Ashby and Miss K. Waterfield
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Clifford Ashby, of Gloucester, and Kaspa, daughter of Mrs D. Waterfield, of Melbourne, Australia. The marriage will take place in Melbourne in February.

Mr M.H.C. Baillieu and Miss S.H. Myer
The engagement is announced between Michael Harold Charles, son of Mr and Mrs J.M. Baillieu, of Melbourne, Australia, and Samantha, daughter of Mr and Mrs S.B. Myer, of Melbourne, Australia.

Mr S.P.T. Baker and Miss M.R. Wexo
Mrs Pamela Scott Wexo, of London, and Mr John Bonnett Wexo, of San Diego, California, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Melissa Rowena, to Sebastian Paul, son of the late Mr Peter Baker and of Mrs Margaret Thornton Baker, of Chelsea. We wish them much happiness.

Mr J.D.A. Birtwistle and Miss E.M. Murray
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, younger son of Mr and Mrs Michael Birtwistle, of Priest Hutton, Lancashire, and Edwina, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Murray, of Sydney, Australia.

Mr M.W.S. Cawthorne and Miss D.A. Davies
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Cawthorne, of Stanton, Suffolk, and Miss Dawn Anne Davies, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Howard Davies, of Pont-ar-Ddulais, South Wales.

Mr M.P. Cusack, ACA and Miss S.J. Williams
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Capt and Mrs Robert J. Cusack, of 62 Seafield Road East, Clontarf, Dublin 3, and Susan, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Norman V. Williams, of Sibthorpe House, Leeson Park, Dublin 6.

Mr N.B.B. Dill and Miss F.J.D. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs N.B. Dill, of Pembroke, Bermuda, and Fiona, elder daughter of Mr J.D. Campbell, of Paget, Bermuda, and Mrs D.J. Campbell, of Kennington, Oxford.

Mr A.V. Firth and Miss N. Fredericks
The engagement is announced between Aaron, eldst son of Mr and Mrs Adrian Firth, of Fulham, London, and Natalie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Fredericks, of Kensington, London.

Mr J.M.G. Frankel and Miss J.S. Hughes
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, eldest son of Mr M.R. Frankel and the late Mrs G.M. Frankel, of Rozel, Jersey, and Judith, second daughter of Mr and Mrs G.W. Hughes, of Bath, Avon.

Mr C.G. Hann and Miss J.A. Bishop
The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mr and Mrs G.A.G. Hann, of Maiden Newton, Dorset, and Jackie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs S.T. Bishop, of Wick, Avon.

Mr R.De W.W. Harries and Miss C.J. Ransom
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Guy Harries, of Angmering, West Sussex, and Camilla, daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Ransom, of Souldern, Oxfordshire.

Mr A.D. Hayes and Miss H.C.L. Bell
The engagement is announced between Adam Denis, son of Mr and Mrs Denis Hayes, of Hagley, Worcs, and Henrietta Claire Louise, daughter of Mr Roger Bell, of London W1, and Mrs Victoria Luffman, of London W12.

Mr N.C. Hopton and Miss H.G. Thrower
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of the late Mr J.G. Hopton and of Mrs Hopton, of Chute Manor, Andover, Hampshire, and Harriet, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs H.R. Thrower, of The Old Rectory, Hannington, Hampshire.

Mr C.E.D. Stonehill and Miss F.D. Salmond
The engagement is announced between Christopher, younger son of Mr and Mrs Gerald Stonehill, of 1 The Boltons, London, and Felicity, only daughter of the late Mr Ivor Salmond, OBE, and of Mrs Vere Tweedie, of West Green, Hampshire.

Mr S.B. Wheatley and Miss C.M. Holt
The engagement is announced between Stephen, younger son of Mr and Mrs Owen Wheatley, of Sutton Coldfield, and Charlotte, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Holt, of Chelsea, London.

Mr T.J. Williams and Miss A.P. Mynott
The engagement is announced between Timothy James, son of Mr and Mrs James Williams, and Annabel Penelope, daughter of Dr and Mrs Michael Mynott.

Marriages

The Earl of Caledon and Miss H.M.A. Newman
The marriage took place yesterday in London of the Earl of Caledon, son of the late Earl of Caledon and the late Mrs D.S. Alexander, of Caledon, County Tyrone, to Miss Henrietta Newman, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Newman, of Compton Park, Compton Chamberlayne, Wiltshire.

Mr D.A. Lawlor and Miss S.H. Clark
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 2, in London between David Lawlor, son of Mr and Mrs Lawlor, of Hitchin, Hertfordsture, and Susan Clark, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph Clark, of Street, Somerset.

Mr N.G. Tubbs and Miss S. Milward
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 9, 1989 at St George's, Hanover Square, London, between Mr Nicholas Tubbs, elder son of Mr Ian Tubbs and Mrs Patricia Tubbs, and Miss Sarah Milward, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Milward.

Picture of a decade of power

MIKE POWELL



Mr John Anthony, the artist, yesterday delivering his painting marking Mrs Margaret Thatcher's 10 years in power to 10 Downing Street. It is Mr Anthony's third portrait of the Prime Minister — his first was in 1979. The latest work was commissioned anonymously.

Christenings

The infant daughter of Peter and Hyat Palumbo was christened Petra Louise, on Friday, December 15, at the Church of St Stephen Walbrook by the Rev Prebendary Dr Chad Varah. The godparents are HRH The Duchess of York, HRH Crown Prince Al-Hassan bin Talal, Lord McAlpine of West Green, Miss Joy Hendriks, Madame Maria Sehnaoui and Major David Waher.

The infant daughter of David and Virginia Wedgwood was baptised Kirsty Paula by Fr Ian Dommersen at St Joseph's, Chiswick on Sunday. The godparents are Mr Mark Cunningham and Miss Kathleen Morrison.

Luncheons

Lunchtime Comment Club
Sir Peter Parker was the guest speker at a luncheon given by the Lunchtime Comment Club yesterday at the Connaught Rooms. Mr Martin C.J. Barber, chairman, presided.

The Scriveners Company
The Scriveners Company held a Court Luncheon at the Mansion House yesterday following the Presentation of a Quill Pen to the Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor of London by the Master of the Company, Mr C.J. Malim. Among those present were Lord and Lady Terrington and Sir David Rowe-Ham.

Dinner

Turners' Company
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were the guest of honour at a dinner given by the Master and Wardens of the Turners' Company last night at Apothecaries' Hall. Mr E.E. Field, Master, presided and presented the Lord Mayor with a silver-mounted mazer. Mr B.C. Johnston, Upper Warden, and the Hon Nicholas Soames, MP, also spoke.

Today's royal engagement

The Prince of Wales will visit the Joint Force Operations Staff, Joint Force Headquarters, Aldershot, Hampshire, at 3.00.

OBITUARIES

STELLA GIBBONS

Fame and fortune from the Starkadders



Stella Gibbons, who wrote one of the classic parodies of the English novel, *Cold Comfort Farm*, published in 1932, died yesterday at the age of 87.

She was born on January 5, 1902, the daughter of Telford Gibbons, a doctor who practised in Camden Town in North London. Educated at the North London Collegiate School, she went on to University College, London, where she took a course in journalism. This was to be her career from 1922 until her marriage in 1933. Her first job was with the British United Press agency from where she went (after a sacking, as she often recalled) to the *Evening Standard* (where she suffered a similar fate) and finally to *The Lady* where she remained to review novels. It was indeed this experience which was to stimluate her gift for satire.

Her first published work, however, was a book of poetry, *The Mountain Beast* (1930). It was in 1932 that the novel for which she will always be remembered, *Cold Comfort Farm*, came out and at once was a best-seller. The principal victim of her parody was Mary Webb, a popular novelist of her day in the bucolic vein. The fame of Stella Gibbons, though, was to outlive that of her quarry.

Her publisher at the time nonetheless had told her that the book would have to be hawked round the book-sellers on a wheelbarrow. The title had been suggested to her by a fellow journalist. It was the name of a farm in the Midlands which really existed.

She had met her future husband, the actor and operatic baritone Allan Bourne Webb in 1929. Her happiness with him and the enthusiasm he had for her work were a considerable influence on the completion of the saga of the Starkadder clan, for which she was to be awarded the Fémina Vie Heureuse Prize in the year following its publication. Much of the book was written on scraps of paper while travelling on the tube between Fleet Street and her home in Hampstead.

A television adaptation of her novel was broadcast on BBC2 as a serial in 1968. As *Something Nasty in the Woodshed*, the novel's most-quoted line, there had also been a version as a musical at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, three years before.

Like so many writers of best-sellers, she was to suffer for the rest of her life from people who associated her name with a single book, yet in the following 40 years she produced 25 novels, four volumes of poetry and three collections of short stories as well as numerous stories and articles for magazines such as *Punch* and *Homes and Gardens*.

Following *Cold Comfort Farm*, there were several successes, notably *Bassett* (1934), *Nightingale Wood* (1938) and *The Bachelor* (1944). The delightful fantasy *Ticky* (1943) was based on stories she had told many years before its publication to her two brothers for whom she made a home in a small cottage in the Vale of Health on Hampstead Heath after the death of her parents. Those years were used as material for another novel, *Enbury Heath* (1935).

Her father, much loved as a GP, was at home sometimes a violent man and there was a strong streak of eccentricity in his side of her family. Her childhood had not been happy. The love of drama in the Gibbons' novels resulted from the quarrels which she avoided.

The Second World War affected her deeply. Her husband was away in the Army. After his return there were happy years until his death in 1959.

She continued to write novels — six were published between 1962 and 1970.

After her last book, *The Woods in Winter* (1970), she decided she no longer wished to submit to editorial control, writing three novels and several poems for her own pleasure and that of a few close friends.

She leaves a daughter.

THE RT HON HERBERT BLAIZE

Grenadian democracy following Marxist rule

The Rt Hon Herbert A. Blaize, Prime Minister of Grenada since 1984, died yesterday at the age of 71.

Though he had been in poor health for some years, Blaize had tenaciously kept his hold on office since his election in the aftermath of US and Caribbean intervention which overthrew the Marxist military regime that had murdered the Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop.

Returned with 15 seats out of the 16 in the legislature, Blaize was elected as the leader of the New National Party. The party was formed under pressure from the leaders of neighbouring Eastern Caribbean islands in a meeting they held with all the Grenadian democratic party leaders in the Vincentian island of Union in August 1984. The Caribbean leaders were concerned that the fruits of the intervention of October 25, 1983, were about to be lost.

The interim regime, presided over by the Governor-General, Sir Paul Scoon, was coming to an end. No one strong democratic party had emerged. There was not the slightest chance of the remnants of the Marxist party being given even a single seat by the electorate. But looming up was the possible prospect of election victory, by default, by the right wing demagogue, Sir Eric Gairy. It was Gairy's abuses of the system which had, in the minds of many, opened the way to the Communist coup in 1979, which had first been welcomed by so many in Grenada and in the wider Caribbean.

Blaize was Grenada's most experienced democratic politician. The Grenada National



Party had been founded in the 1950s. Under one of the last of the colonial constitutions, Blaize had become in 1960, the island's first Chief Minister (Gairy had been suspended from politics for five years for electoral irregularities.) In 1971, when his suspension expired, Gairy replaced Blaize as Chief Minister, only to be dismissed from office when Britain suspended the entire 1959 constitution because of Gairy's waste or misuse of public funds.

In September, 1962, Blaize's GNP won the election; for five years Grenada enjoyed its only period of political and economic stability under democratic rule. Blaize's government was mildly reformist. Tourism enjoyed a minor boom. The government attempted to enter into unitary statehood with Trinidad and Tobago, but this was eventually abandoned due to intense opposition from public opinion in richer Trinidad, which had long been subject to illegal Grenadian immigration.

On this, Mr Blaize made one of his few jokes. Contending that Grenadians were still Grenadians, even if born in Trinidad, he remarked that if the cat has kittens in the oven, you don't call them bread.

Defeated by Gairy in 1967 Blaize, though still remaining leader of the GNP, took a lower profile which stood him in good stead both in the Gairy years and during the revolutionary period 1979-83, when the New Jewel Provisional Revolutionary Government ruled without parliament.

He partly retreated to Carraciou, an island dependency where he was born on February 28, 1918. There he had worked as a schoolteacher and studied in his spare time for the Law Society's examinations, eventually qualifying as a solicitor.

He was loyal to his native island, and its people were loyal to him, invariably returning him as their representative, first to the Legislative Council in the 1950s, and, later to the Parliament of Grenada. However, in late 1988, other native sons appeared, and it looked as if he might not win the seat if he stood again.

His last months in office were marked by a fight for political survival. On Sunday he was named leader of the National Party, which he had founded after being pushed aside as leader of the New National Party in January this year.

Blaize remained a pillar of parliamentary probity.

JOHN HEDDLE, MP

Conservative environmental specialist

John Heddle, the Conservative MP for Mid-Staffordshire, was found dead in his car yesterday. He was 48. Heddle enjoyed a considerable reputation as a backbench specialist in environmental, housing and local government matters. He was an advocate of reform of the rating system and of public sector housing. He put forward major proposals for change in pamphlets published by the Conservative Political Centre — some of which were later incorporated in his own Private Member's Bills.

It was his involvement in these issues which gave shape and coherence to his political career. He first came to prominence in the Conservative Party as a young and dynamic member of Kent County Council on which he served from 1973 to 1979. Some of his friends confidently expected him to be offered office at the Department of the Environment, but he always said that he valued his independence too highly. In the House, Labour opponents sought to suggest that the connection between his dominating political interests and his money-making ventures was unduly close.

Within his own Party, however, he was a highly respected Chairman of its Parliamentary Environment Committee and of its National Local Government Advisory Committee.

John Heddle was born on September 15, 1941, and educated at Bishop's Stortford College and at the College of Estate Management of London University. By the age of 23 he had established his own firm of chartered surveyors. His subsequent success was undoubtedly assisted by his ready charm and persuasive manner — though some found him a trifle slick.

He had a number of directorships; he was also a Lloyds underwriter; but housing always remained his main professional interest. Yet despite his close involvement with the building societies, he vigorously championed the interests of the house buyer whose rights he was always anxious to safeguard. He was made a Freeman of the City of London in 1979.

Heddle entered Parliament in 1979 for Lichfield and Tamworth, one of those critical West Midlands marginal seats whose conquest from Labour contributed so much to Mrs Thatcher's victory. He was returned for Mid-Staffordshire following boundary changes in 1983. His majority at the last General Election was 14,654.

There was in his character a touch of arrogance which, earlier this year, brought him a considerable amount of unfavourable publicity when he found himself at the centre of an incident following a row with the police in Spain. The police were still considering whether to press charges at the time of his death.

His first marriage, to Judith Robinson, was dissolved in 1985. He married his second wife, Janet, in 1986. He is survived by her and by the two sons and two daughters of his first marriage.

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS UNITE!



Join thousands of pet owners who have registered their animals on the National Pet Register — an established animal identification scheme operated by a leading animal welfare charity to reunite lost pets with their owners.

Why?...because registration means greater security for both you *and* your pet through our 24 hour lost pet emergency 'phone service and third party insurance cover. But that's not all. You'll be helping to support an organisation whose aims are to minimise the heartbreaking destruction of strays and reduce problems caused by uncontrolled animals.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY PET?
Simply fill in and return the application below, together with a cheque or postal order for £5.00*

Details of your pet will then be entered into our computer system — and you will be sent, by return, an engraved identification disc for your pet's collar, carrying our 24 hour emergency 'phone number.

*£5.00 fee for life-long registration for your pet, as well as third party insurance for one year (renewable annually - £2.00)

Please send completed application to:
National Pet Register, Chilshill Road, Heydon, Herts., SG8 8PN. Telephone: 0763 838325

NATIONAL PET REGISTER

I enclose £5.00 for registration of my pet on the National Pet Register. Please send identification disc and registration form by return.

Name
Address
Postcode
Tel. No.
Name of Pet
Type Colour

Memorial service

Sir John Reiss
A memorial service for Sir John Reiss was held yesterday in the Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street. The Rev Dr A.W. Marks officiated. Mr Jeremy Reiss, son, read the lesson and Miss Amanda Reiss, daughter, read *Little Gidding* from the *Four Quartets* by T.S. Eliot. Mr Michael Ivens, Director of Aims of Industry, gave an address. Among those present were:
Mrs Jeremy Reiss (daughter-in-law), Mr Andrew McCulloch (son-in-law), Mr and Mrs Rodney Goddard and Mr and Mrs G Musacchio (sons-in-law and daughters), Colette and Chloe McCulloch, Piers and Tremayne Reiss and James Goddard (grandchildren), Mrs H F Stanley (sister-in-law), Miss Virginia Booth-Jones (stepdaughter), Captain Alistair MacEwen, Mr James Dees.
Lord Renwick, Lord Taylor of Hadfield, Sir John Milne (chairman, Blue Circle Industries) and Lady Milne with Mr Jim McColgan (managing director), Mr James Loudon (finance director) and Mr Michael Spurr (chief executive, Blue Circle Cement); Sir Nigel Mobbs (Buckingham University), Sir Clifford Chetwood, Sir Neil Shields, Mrs Michael Ivens, Mrs Christopher Phillpotts, Mr Alister Forbes (deputy director, Aims of Industry), Mr Robin Dent and Brigadier David Gribbin (Cancer Research Campaign), Mr Nigel Morshead (treasurer, Moral Re-Armament) and Mr Stanley Kiser (Westminster Theatre).

The Viscountess Rothermere regrets that she was unable to attend the Thanksgiving Service at St Bride's on Monday, December 18, as she was detained abroad.

Birthdays today

Miss Jenny Agutter, actress, 37; Mr Michael Beaumont, Seigneur of Sark, 62; Lord Brabazon of Tara, 43; Mr Paul Brickhill, author, 73; Sir George Coldstream, QC, 82; Mr Malcolm Cooper, marksman, 42; Mr Peter Cundell, racehorse trainer, 41; Mr Charles Denton, television and film producer, 52; the Earl of Harrowby, 67; Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, 63; Miss Rachel Trickett, principal, St Hugh's College, Oxford, 66; Sir Dick White, diplomat, 83; Mr John Whitney, former director-general, IBA, 59.

School news

Rossall Preparatory School
Mr Andrew Rosuron, Boarding Housemaster and Head of Geography at Beechwood Park School has been appointed Headmaster of Rossall Preparatory School from September 1990 in succession to Mr Ian Elliott.

SCIENCE REPORT

Researchers find changes in DNA

Genetic material in different parts of the body may be rearranged as a normal part of growth and development.

This is the implication of research published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (vol. 86, pp. 9233-9237) by Michio Oishi of the University of Tokyo and colleagues. They have found that genetic material, DNA, in the rat brain differs from DNA in other tissues, such as the liver and heart.

It is generally thought that the only natural process in mammals in which genes are physically tampered with is the production of antibodies.

Antibody genes have to be flexible, so that they can create proteins at short notice that will be active against any invader. But genetic material in developing mammals generally remains inviolate.

The researchers were looking for genes in rat brain tissue, and started by making what gene researchers call a "library": they extracted the DNA from the brain, cut it up into small pieces with special enzymes, storing each piece as a "clone" in a culture of bacteria for future reference.

They compared 700 of these clones with a collection of genes extracted from rat liver, and the two were identical in 699 cases. But one of the pieces of brain DNA did not, apparently, have a counterpart in the liver. This piece of DNA was christened BL-1.

Oishi and colleagues found that it also occurred in the lenses of the eye; this makes sense in terms of embryology, because the eyes and the brain develop from the same kind of embryonic tissue, distinct from that which forms the liver and other internal organs.

Nevertheless, small amounts of BL-1 were found later in tissues apart from the brain and lens, but in very small quantities. The researchers believe that the reason they found BL-1 in the brain is that it is more abundant there than anywhere else.

They think that brain DNA may have 50-100 copies of BL-1, whereas liver and heart DNA each have less than 10. So it is the amplification of BL-1, rather than simply its presence, that is unusual.

Looking even more closely, the researchers found that BL-1 is 97 per cent identical to a particular part of a genetic sequence called LINE (short for Long Interspersed Element). LINE is one of a number of repetitive DNA sequences that, in huge numbers, pepper the chromosomes.

There are about 10,000 copies of LINE in every human (and rat) cell, although the amplification of BL-1 in the brain appears to be special.

Sequences like LINE show evidence of once having been autonomous "jumping genes" that are able to copy themselves and spread throughout the DNA. Although mostly dormant, they have been known to reactivate and are sometimes associated with cancer.

But the amplification of BL-1 is probably a side-effect of other gene activity in the brain during development, and may not have any special purpose in itself.

Henry Gee

© Nature-The Times News Service, 1989

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

Help me to understand your laws, and I will meditate on your wonderful teachings. Psalm 119:27

BIRTHS

AGBANIECHE - On December 3rd 1989, to Temiyemi (née Harriman) and Michael, a son, Alexander Orilsetsoluyemi Nnamdi, a brother for Maxwell Aboyowa.

ALDRIDGE - On December 15th, to Maddie (née Collins) and Tim, a daughter, Matilda Daisy.

BOARDMAN - On December 9th 1989, to Susie and Barry, a son, Sam, brother to Tom, Charlie and Georgina.

BOCHMANN - On December 18th 1989, in Lisbon, to Celia (née Williams) and Christopher, a daughter (Elizabeth), a sister for Alexandra.

BURROWS - On December 16th, to Judith (née Allingham) and Ian, a son, Henry Charles.

CORFE - On December 10th 1989, to Diana (née Muirsmith) and Michael, a son, James David.

CROSBY - On December 15th, to Matthew and Mary, a son, Miles William Southe.

DAVIES - On December 17th 1989, to Susan (née Cooke) and Guy, a son, Richard Philip Charles.

de COURCY WHEELER - On Wednesday December 13th 1989, to Agnes and James, a daughter.

HAYDN JONES - On December 17th, to Alison (née Davies) and Rob, a daughter Miranda Elisabeth. All thanks to staff at John Radcliffe, Oxford.

HUGHES-PICKERING - On December 18th 1989, at West Middlesex Hospital, to Liz (née Hughes) and Russell, a daughter, Charlotte Angharad.

IRWIN - On December 15th 1989, to Elizabeth (née Bunster) and Gabriel, a son, Edward, a brother for William.

MARENBON - On December 10th, to Sheila (née Lawlor) and John, a son, D.G.

MARTELLI - On August 24th, to Gaby, wife of Amyas Martelli, a son, Bartholomew Michael Augustus, brother to Anna-Rose and Freddie. Deo Gratias.

MARTIN - On December 17th, at home, to Patsy (née Cowgill) and Richard, a son, Edward Andrew, a brother for Marina, Flora and Francis.

MULLARKEY - On December 11th, to Sue (née Hamilton) and Tom, a son, James Patrick Edward, a brother for Rory.

OLIPHANT - On December 13th, to Claire (née Yell) and Antony, a son, Henry Jack, a brother for Tom and Harriet.

ORME - On December 11th 1989, to Jill (née Dyson) and Richard, a beautiful daughter, Lauren Beatrice Charlotte.

SOUTH - On December 14th 1989, to Anne (née Dungey) and David, a son, Frederick David Francis.

STUBBS - On November 29th 1989, to Sarah (née Whetstone) and Alan, a daughter Eleanor Sarah, a sister for Timothy.

STUBBS - On November 27th 1989, to Sarah (née Wade) and Peter, a son Charles Peter, a brother for Emily.

WHITE-SPUNNER - On December 18th 1989, to Amanda (née Faulkner) and Barnabas, a daughter, Laetitia.

WINSER - On December 17th 1989, to Catherine (née Wright) and Julian, a daughter, Holly Olivia.

DEATHS

ARKWRIGHT - On December 19th suddenly at home, Captain Percy Frederick (Pup), beloved husband of Liz. Cremation private. Memorial Service 12 noon on Thursday January 4th at Holy Trinity Church, Hatton. Donations to Three Roses Home, Clent, Stourbridge, Worcs.

BAUCHER - On December 19th, peacefully in Hertford, Arthur Walter Henry. Funeral Service to take place at the Ipswich Crematorium on Wednesday December 27th at 11.45 am. All friends welcome.

BOAS - On December 15th, peacefully in hospital after a short illness, Charlotte, beloved wife of Colonel 'Bill' Boas, and proprietress of Kenway Antiques, Earls Court. She was an inspiration to all who knew her and will be very sadly missed. One in a million. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium Friday December 22nd at 4 pm. Flowers to Ballards, 308 Old Brompton Road, London SW5, telephone: 01-370 6271.

BETT - On December 17th 1989, peacefully in hospital at Torquay, Lieutenant Colonel Neil Granger Bett. Funeral Service at Torquay Crematorium on Thursday December 28th at 4 pm. Enquiries to Torbay and District Funeral Service, telephone: (0803) 315005.

BODMAN - On December 14th, suddenly, Dick, much loved husband of Georgie and father of Richard, Mary, Catherine and Juliet.

BODMAN - On December 18th, peacefully in hospital, Gerald French, MBE, beloved father of Christopher and Rosemary and grandfather of Serena and Liam. Service at Golders Green Unitarian Chapel, Hoop Lane, NW11, 1 pm on Friday December 22nd, followed by cremation. Family flowers, donations to Save the Children Fund.

CLARK - On December 17th, peacefully at home in Gorleston, Ethel (née Hall), aged 97, widow of the late Montague Clark, much loved mother, grandma and great grandma. Private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Barnardo's to be sent to A. Jary and Sons Limited, 215 Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

COOKE - On December 18th, peacefully in Worthing, Anne Heathorn (Huxley), wife of Geoffrey, mother of Martin, Henrietta deceased and Nicholas. Granny to seven affectionate grandchildren. Dearly loved. Cremation at Guildford Crematorium, Friday December 29th at 12 noon. No mourning or flowers please. Donations if desired to The Sue Ryder Foundation, Cavendish, Suffolk.

CRAWFORD - On December 16th, peacefully, Marjorie Vivienne (née Shirley), aged 92. Much loved wife of the late Sir Fergusson (Bill) Crawford. Greatly missed by her children John and Jane and her five grandchildren. Funeral Service 11 am Saturday December 30th, All Saints' Church, Thurlestone, South Devon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Sudan Relief Fund, c/o Hussein Awad Consul Sudan Embassy, Cleveland Row, SW1.

de-HAVILLAND - On December 15th, suddenly at home, Major General Peter Hugh, dearly loved husband of Angela, father of Bill and John and stepfather of Jessica. Funeral Service at Little Horkesley Church on Friday December 22nd at 12 noon. Flowers to W.H. Shephard Funeral Directors, 93/94 High St., Colchester. There will be no Memorial Service at his request.

DODSON - On December 17 1989, after a short illness, Olga, widow of James Herbert Dodson, formerly of Charing, Kent. Requiem Mass at St Theresa's, Ashford, at 09.30 on December 27 1989, followed by cremation at Charing at 10.30. Family flowers only please, but donations to Cancer Research would be most welcome.

DOUGLAS-WHYTE - On December 18th, peacefully, Beatrice (Bea), of Burwood Park, Walton-on-Thames, widow of Lex and previously widow of Col. W.R. Brazier, M.C., R.A., sadly missed by her relatives and her many friends. Funeral Service, Thursday December 28th at 2 pm, Woking St John's Crematorium. Enquiries to Frederick W. Chitty & Co., 45 Elmgrove Road, Weybridge, Surrey, tel: (0932) 842220.

DUBASH - On December 19th, in Bombay, after a long illness borne with great courage, Behram (Behloo), much loved son of Dinoo, dearly beloved husband of Jer and loving father of Adi and Manek. Deeply mourned.

DULLEY - On Saturday December 16th 1989, peacefully, aged 78 years, Sylvia (née Nicholes), much loved mother of Michael, Mary and Rosalind, beloved grandmother of Lucy and Joanna. Funeral Service at St Edward King and Martyr on Friday December 29th at 11.30 am, followed by private committal at Cambridge City Crematorium. Family flowers only please, donations to The Friends of Arthur Rank House, c/o Harry Williams & Sons, 7 Victoria Park, Cambridge.

ESDAILE - On December 17th 1989, at St Audrey's, Old Hatfield, Dr. Philippa Chicheley, formerly of Queen Elizabeth College, University of London and of Tewing Wood, Hertfordshire, at the age of 101 years. Funeral at Garston on Friday December 29th 1989 at 2 pm. Flowers and enquiries to J.J. Burgess & Sons, by 12 noon.

FOX - On December 16th 1989, Gladys Isabel, aged 95, Widow of Archibald and mother of the late Jacquie Milholland and the late Archie Fox. Much loved grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Crematorium on Wednesday December 27th at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only.

GEZZELE - On December 16th, quietly at Fleet Hospital, Doris Amelia Daisy (Doll) (née Ricketts), aged 79. Adored widow of Eric and beloved of Pamela, Christopher and Caroline. Funeral, The Park Crematorium, Aldershot, 9.30 Friday December 22nd, followed by a Memorial Service at 3 pm at Christ Church, Crookham, Hampshire, followed by interment of ashes. Family flowers only, but donations to The Eric and Doll Gezzele Memorial Fund for the Nurses Trust at Fleet Hospital, c/o Goddards, Kent Road, Fleet, Hampshire.

GILBERT - On December 16th, peacefully at home, Barbara, wife of the late Professor E.W. Gilbert. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving in Appleton Church on January 16th at 2.30 pm. No flowers, donations if wished to Multiple Sclerosis Society.

GOULANDRIS - On December 17th 1989, peacefully at home in Dublin, Athena, beloved wife of the late Leonard, sadly missed by her loving children Eleni, Marianna, Alexandra, Alkiviadis and Sophia, her sons-in-law John, James, Nicholas and Mark and her daughter-in-law Mari, also her grandchildren and great-grandson. The funeral service took place in Dublin on December 18th. Burial service at Hendon Cemetery Chapel at 12.30 on Friday December 22nd. No flowers, please. Donations, if desired, to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, St John of God Hospital, Stillorgan Road, Dublin.

GREGOR MACGREGOR - On December 17th 1989, peacefully at Merlewood Nursing Home, Mussel, aged 96 years. Much loved widow of Ivor, mother of Bunty, Peter and Angus. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church, Sandhurst, on Tuesday January 2nd 1990 at 1.15 pm, followed by committal at Easthampstead Park Crematorium. Cared for with great love and kindness by all the staff at Merlewood. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Merlewood Nursing Home. All enquiries to F. Harrison & Son, 40 Harvest Road, Englefield Green, Egham, tel: (0784) 432163.

HACKETT - On Monday December 18th 1989, Olwen Philis Frances Hackett O.B.E., archaeologist, wife of Wing Commander Charles Hackett R.A.F. (ret.) and formerly the wife of the late Sir Denis Brogan: after a short illness.

HARVIE-WATT - On Monday December 18th 1989, peacefully after a long illness, at Stratheden Hospital, Cupar, Fife, Sir George Steven Harvie-Watt, First Baronet of Bathgate, Q.C., D.L., aged 86, dearly loved husband of Bettie and father of James, Euan and Rachel (Fraser). Family flowers only. No mourning, no letters, and cremation private at his own request.

JULIUS - On December 17th 1989, Leslie, deeply loved husband of Rosamund, father of Corinne and grandfather to Christopher and Carla. He will be greatly missed by all his family and the many friends here and abroad who knew him well. A Memorial Service will be announced later.

KENDRICK - On December 18th 1989, Renée Iris (née Dermody), of Bose Bank, Evesham and formerly of St Egwin's Cottage, Norton, Evesham and Melville Hall, Edgbaston, Birmingham, at the age of 70 years. Widow of Laurence and cherished mother of David. Funeral will be held at St Egwin's Church, Norton, Evesham, at 10.30 am on Friday December 22nd. Flowers and/or donations to St Richard's Hospice may be sent to W.E. Williams, Funeral Directors, 30 Swan Lane, Evesham, Worcs., WR11 4PD.

LEADBETTER - On December 17th 1989 at Crieff Cottage Hospital, William Richardson (Bill), dearly loved husband of Margaret, and much loved father and grandfather. Funeral at Perth Crematorium at 1.45 pm on Friday December 22nd. Family flowers only, donations if desired to The Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, 21 Rutland Street, Edinburgh EH1 2AH.

LEGGE - On Sunday December 17th 1989, John Barrington, of Dodford, Northants. Private funeral, immediate family only. Memorial Service to be announced later.

MANSBRIDGE - On December 11th 1989, Henry St John, much loved husband of Patricia, father of Anne and grandfather of Matthew. Cremation was held privately.

McCALL - On December 18th 1989, very peacefully at home in Winchester, in her 80th year, Joan Elizabeth (née Kingdon), after a long and courageous fight against cancer, dear wife of Robin for 52 years and loving mother of John, Elizabeth and Christopher and grandmother of Patrick, Claire, Will, Fiona and Jonathan. By her wish private family funeral with her garden flowers - Thanksgiving Service in Winchester Cathedral in early spring. Donations if desired to Wessex Cancer Trust, c/o Jno. Steel, Chesil Street, Winchester.

MILLER - On December 18th, peacefully in loving care of Treverven Nursing Home, Irene Gertrude Anne, aged 84 years, of Sancreed House, Sancreed, Penzance. Beloved wife of Albert Ernest (deceased) and mourned by David, John and Michael. Funeral Service at Sancreed Church on Friday December 22nd at 11 am, followed by family cremation. Family flowers only, donations for Treverven Nursing Home League of Friends, may be sent to W.J. Bryant & Sons, Ashton, Helston, Cornwall.

NASH - On December 17th, at Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton, Samuel Leslie, dearly loved husband of Doris, father of Fiona and Giles, son of Elizabeth, fought a long brave battle. Deeply missed. Funeral at Aldershot Crematorium on Thursday December 28th at 3 pm.

PARKINSON - On December 15th 1989, in the Witney Community Hospital, Rhona, twin sister of the late Monty, for many years piano teacher at Radley College. Funeral Service at St James the Great Church, Radley, on Friday December 22nd at 11.30 am, followed by interment at Rose Hill Cemetery.

POGSON - On December 15th, in The Charing Cross Hospital, after a sudden illness, Trevor Reid, aged 67 years. Born Christchurch New Zealand. Barrister at law Middle Temple, retired Colonial Administrative Service Tanzania, and subsequently for several years with the Director of Public Prosecutions and The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. Cremation at West Chapel, Golders Green Crematorium on Tuesday January 9th at 11 am. Flowers and enquiries to J.H. Kenyon Ltd. Funeral Directors, 49 Marloes Road, London W8 6LA, tel: 01-937 0757.

RICHES - On December 17th 1989, peacefully at home, after a long illness borne with great courage, the Reverend Claude. Funeral Service at All Saints' Church, Ashdon, on Saturday December 23rd at 10.30 am. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired may be sent for Oxfam or Christian Aid to H.J. Paintin Ltd., 43 High Street, Linton, Cambridge, CB1 6HS.

RUSHWORTH - On December 15th 1989, at Morton, near Southwell, Notts., David Charles, aged 86 years. Beloved husband of Violetta, dearest father of Violet, Rosemary and Elizabeth. A much loved grandfather and great-grandfather.

RUSSELL - On December 18th 1989, at home, Susette (Sue) (née Harvey), wife of Group Captain J.G. Russell R.A.F. (Ret'd), mother of Susan and Jane.

SETH-SMITH - On December 17th, peacefully after a long illness, Jean McClymont, aged 70. Much loved wife of the late Dr. David Seth-Smith, mother of Alvan, sister of Anne, James and Josephine, guardian of Daphne and John. Funeral Service at Emmanuel Church, Church Road, Northwood, on December 27th at 11.30 am, followed by cremation. Enquiries and flowers if desired to E. Spark Ltd., tel: (09274) 25372.

WARING - On December 15th 1989, suddenly, John Charles Thomas Tremayne, of Westcott, Dorking, Surrey, beloved husband of Judith, much loved brother of Diana and David. Funeral at All Saints, Willey, Surrey, December 28th at 2 pm. Flowers or donations to the British Heart Foundation, c/o Sherlock and Sons, Trellis House, South Street, Dorking, tel: (0306) 882266.

WELLS - On December 17th, quietly at home, John Lawrence K.S.G. and former Lord Mayor of Westminster, aged 68. Beloved husband of Betty May and father of Liz, Jane and William. Family funeral on December 22nd. Family flowers only. c/o Kenyons, 74 Rochester Row, SW1, or donations to British Lung Foundation. Memorial Service later.

WILKINSON - On December 11th 1989, Charlotte Hazel Langton, aged 77. Dearly loved mother of Judith and grandmother of Damian, Zoë, Milo and Benjamin. Funeral at The Chapel, East Sheen Cemetery, 2 pm Thursday December 21st.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

CARPENTER - Miss V E - Formerly of Dame Alice Owen's Girls' School, Islington. So sadly missed by B.V.F. and family.

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone.

For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00 pm Mon-Thurs, 4pm Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm Sat for Monday's paper.

01 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISS DIANE THORN and family wish to thank all those who attended the Service for Mr. Derek Thorn at Epsom Cemetary and for the floral tributes and donations to charity.

RAB BARKER Of the Meadow House, Toys Hill, wishes all his friends a very Happy Christmas and asked to forgiven for not sending cards this year due to advancing years and the ravages of time.

BIRTHDAYS

A VERY Happy 21st Birthday to Saffron and Julian, with love Mum & Dad.

SERVICES

DATELINE GOLD
A new service from the world's largest, longest established and most successful computer dating agency. Dateline Gold is not a dating service - we specialise in personal and selective introductions between successful, confident, attractive and highly articulate clients seeking lasting relationships. Wherever you live our vast membership allows us to provide a unique and superior service for an affordable fee.
For further information or to discuss your requirements please ring Catherine on 01-937 9864 or write to: 23 Abingdon Road Kensington London W8 6AH

MEN FISHER INTRODUCTIONS High class clientele. 48/46 Chalk Farm Rd, NW1 01-267 6066. W/E 01-769 4901. Men 40-65 especially in demand.

MEET new friends in 1990, with the help of our professional introduction service. Ring Love in Your Life now on 01-565 2203, Suite 2, 108 New Bond St, London, W1.

MENOPAUSE and Hormone Replacement Therapy. For information pack or cassette ring 01-200 0200 or write to Amarant Trust (Dept WN-4) 14-24 Lonsdale Road, London NW6 6RD. Telephone Helplines on 0836 400 190 (38p per min. peak, 25p off peak).

STRESS CLINIC: A unique centre for the treatment of stress related problems including alcohol and tranquilliser dependency. For treatment details and brochure please contact: The Clinic Director, Ilsington Country Clinic, Nr Newton Abbot, Devon TQ13 9RR. Tel. 03646 462.

VASECTOMY One visit. In 19 Marie Stopes Centres throughout Britain. Phone (0800) 590590 (free phone call) for nearest centre & info pack. Also female sterilisation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BANCROFT'S SCHOOL
is anxious to re-establish contact with former pupils (particularly those who are not members of the OBA) who may rest assured that this is not a prelude to an Appeal.
Please send details of name and address to the Head Master's Secretary, Bancroft's School Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0RF
Tel: 01-505 4821

FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment.

ALL TICKETS MISS SAIGON, PHANTOM, LES MIS, ASPECTS OF LOVE, RUGBY INTERNATIONALS, CLAPTON, MCCARTNEY, KNEBWORTH. All major pop & theatre. 01-925 0085 or 01-930 0800. Credit cards accepted.

PHANTOM, MISS SAIGON, ASPECTS OF LOVE, CATS, LES MIS. All rugby, all football. Eric Clapton, Phil Collins, Prince, Knebworth 90, Chris Rea, Sinatra. 01-621 9593 (Day), (0860) 244849 (Eves). City of London Tickets.

PHANTOM, SAIGON, ASPECTS, E CLAPTON & SINATRA Tel: 01-588 8008 or 0836 723433. All CC's accepted

THE TIMES 1791-1989. Other titles available Ready for presentation - also "Sundays". £17.50. Remember When. 01-688 6323/6324.

WANTED

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment.

MILITARY Historian wanted for genuine family assignment - no time wasters please. Reply to BOX A47

STUDENT seeks sponsorship to complete her MBA (Finance) study - please call 01-733 5368.

FOR SALE

PHANTOM, MISS SAIGON, LES MIS, CATS & ASPECTS OF LOVE Rugby, Eric Clapton, Phil Collins all Pop & Major Sporting Events. 01-633 0888. all CC's accepted. FREE DELIVERY

1977 Vintage Port. 1 case Dows £320 1 case Grahams £310 or £600 the two. (0472) 72988.

AARDVARK Tickets. Phantom, Aspects, Les Mis, Miss Saigon. 01-493 0427/2848. All CC'S.

ACQUIRE those virtually impossible tickets. Phantom etc. All theatre and sport. The London Connection 01-439 1763.

A JEWEL made from property cut Diamonds & Gems. Unmatched in quality and price from Hermier. A perfect last minute present delivered to your door Tel: 01-734 6361.

ALL tickets - Phantom, Les Mis, Ms Saigon, Aspects, Cats, Sport & Pop, Knebworth, Clapton. Tel: 01-706 0565/0366. (T)

ALL best seats. London theatres, also Rigoletto. All major credit cards tel: 01-287 5482/3/4.

ALL sold out events. Aspects, Phantom, Les Mis, Cats, Miss Saigon & all pop shows. 01-439 9128 or 01-734 6378.

ALL TICKETS Phantom, Miss Saigon, Aspects, all events and sports. Tel. 01-437 4248 or 01-287 8824/25.

FRIDGES/FREEZERS. Cookers. Can you buy cheaper? Delivered today 01-229 1947/8468

MISS SAIGON, Phantom, Domingo, rugby, pop. Sold out events bought & sold. 01-497 2536

SEATFINDERS: All 'sold out' events. 01-828 1678. Credit Cards.

SIMPLY Red, Cliff Richard, Jackie Wilson, Mel & Kim, Billy Ocean and many more are on the 1986 edition of Eighties - The Decade of Music Video - Wienerworld's ultimate year-by-year music video collection. Collect all 10 & get a great video free! Available at Woolworths, WH Smith, Our Price, Virgin and all stores of taste now!

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

EXQUISITE CARTIER BOX NY
c1910. Gold with black striped enamel. Set with carved Crystal and Diamonds. £3,000.
Tel: 01-352 8205.

ORIENTAL Rugs for sale. Different sizes, 4 rugs only £1,300. Tel: 01-736 2889.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

CHAPPELL OF BOND STREET
LONDON'S LEADING MUSIC STORE
Upright and Grand pianos by leading manufacturers. Portable keyboards, Clavinovas, guitars and sheet music.
CHAPPEL OF BOND ST.
50 New Bond St. London W1
Tel. 01-491 2777
Mon-Fri 9.30-6 pm Saturday 9.30-5 pm

Christmas Shopping Crisis?
Make it easy at Markson Pianos where there's over 200 pianos to choose from and their unique hire with option to buy scheme too.
Markson Pianos.
Buy or hire from £20 per month. Albany St, NW1. 01-935 8682. Artillery Pl, SE18. 01-854 4517. Dewes Rd, SW6. 01-381 4132.

BECHSTEIN Grand, 6ft. Beautiful tone & case. £7,800. Tel: 01-431 8104 or 0831-423201.

NEW PIANOS from £1,380. Interest free credit or rental. Knightsbridge Pianos, Raphael Street, SW1 01-584 2581

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

THE PIANO WORKSHOP sells new, restored & digital pianos, hire with purchase option, colossal choice. 30A Highgate Road, NW5. Free catalogue Tel 01-267 7671.

ANIMALS & BIRDS

ANGEL to top your tree! She is a 9 mths old Lhasa Apso Puppy £380 ono. 0966 682087.

FLATSHARE

BATTERSEA 2 to share attractive 3 bed patio flat. £57pw P/person. Tel (0239) 86642.

DULWICH - Prof. Male/ 26+. N/S. Share lux house. £230 pcm inc. Tel: 01-670-4178.

FLATLINK - We are London's most Successful Quality Flatshare Agency. For an appointment ring 01 287 3248

FLATMATES. London's foremost flat sharing service. (Est 1970) especially for selective home owners & young professionals 01 589 5491 for appointment 313 Brompton Road, SW3.

FULHAM SW6 Prof. M/F, N/S, own room in lux hse. £75 pw plus bills. 01-386 8116 (eve).

PUTNEY Prof female, N/S. Lge rm, own bath, all mod cons. Close BR/LT/shops. £75 PW incl. 01-871 4544 (D). 01-788 3113 (E).

W.KEN. Queens Club Gardens. 2 Prof f/m, n/s, own dble rms in lux shrd flat. £75 p.w. Nr Tubes. Tel (01) 831-7171 ext.4241 (before 5pm)

WALLINGTON. Own room in shared lux gdn house. W/M, all amenities. £55 pw incl bills. Available from the 20th of Dec. View now. Tel: 01 669 9197.

WOOD GREEN Prof.fem. to share lux flat. 5 mins Tube & shops. Own room. Off street parking. £55 pw exclu. Tel 01-200 4897.

YOUNG Prof M/F to share luxury friendly flat with sports complex. Panoramic views over Battersea Park and London. £400 pcm + Bills. 01-720 8809 5-7pm.

RENTALS

ABOUT TOWN Elegant 2 bd apt. brand new dec + fnt £350 pw For free local factfile 221 0111.

ACCOMMODATION URGENTLY req for City Institutions. Call us with your properties to let Sebastian Estates. 01 381 4998

AMERICAN and International Banks seeking top quality props to rent in SW7, SW3, SW10 area. Call on 370 5453 (T).

AMERICAN BANK Requires flats and houses in Central London, for long lets for their senior executives. prices ranging from £200 - £1,500 pw. Foxtons open 7 days. 01 221 3534.

BELGRAVIA SW1. Spacious ground floor, 2 dble bed, reception, K & B. £300 pw. Apply owner. Tel: 01-937 6777 (T).

BRIGHTON Marina Village. 1 bed apartment, available until Spring 1990. £325 pm. All inclusive. Tel: (0273) 737006.

BAKER STREET. A selection of lux flats available immed. Short & long lets. Tel 258 1866 (T)

BARBICAN now has a range of unfurnished living accommodation for rent to companies only. Call the Barbican Estate Office on 01-588 8110 or 01-628 4372. Rents from £6,945 to £13,200.

BARBICAN. Double bed lux in the City. Cable TV, Pkg, bicny, security. £170 pw. 01 628 4041.

CENTRAL LONDON Holiday apts. 01-228 7158. Details: 43 Whistlers Avenue, SW11 3TS.

CHELSEA Walton St. Luxury 1 bed flat, kit/diner, reception, patio. £230pw. 01-823 8257 T

EX-DIPLOMAT'S W1/Mayfair. Lux furn 4 bedrm, 2 bath, 2 rec. Gdn. £495pw. 01 262 3989.

FRENCH Bank urgently req lux flats and houses £350-£1,500 pw. Dominic's 01-581 0154.

FULHAM, SW6 - Waltham Grove. Fully modernised 4 bed, 3 ensuite bathrooms family residence. Garden patio, magnificent kitchen and bathroom. All latest mod cons to include BT Alarm Monitoring. Long let £400 pw. Tel: 01-455 8572/8021 or 385 2663 (T).

FULHAM SW6 Foxtons urgently require quality properties for Multi-National Corporate Companies and Embassys. Open 7 days. 01 381 8020

FULLY furnished flat, 5 minutes from Balham tube, large double bedroom, large sitting room, bathroom, kitchen, gas central heating. £150 per week. Contact Michael Huntingford 01-236 8000 (daytime) and 01-673 2155 (eve).

HENRY & JAMES Contact us now on 01-235 8861 for the best selection of furnished flats and houses to rent in Belgravia, Knightsbridge and Chelsea.

KENSINGTON SW7. Spac unfurn period hse loc. In quiet res. rd. 4 beds, 2 baths, 2/3 recep rms. priv. Gdn £450pw. Exc. rates. Hugh Henry. 01-978 1880

KNIGHTSBRIDGE £48 per night. Luxury service apts. beside Harrods. Kensington flats £22 per night. Oxbridge Apts 01-835 1611. Fax 01-373 0036.

RENTALS

LET US LET your property in SW + W London to our Co Clients. Sebastian Estates. 01 381 4998

MAYFAIR Hyde Park. The most luxurious long/short lets. 1/6 beds, best prices. Globe Apartments. 01-935 9512/ 2089.

N16 Beautiful 3½ dble bed hse with gdn in 1st class copd. All mod cons. 2 recs. Kit / brk. 5 mins BR (15 mins L'pool St) £800 pcm excl. Prefer 6 mths let. Tel: 01 767 1961 (Home)

PENTHOUSE Breathtaking & Unique. Sw pool, sauna, next Tower Bridge. £1500 pw. About Town 221 0111.

PIMLICO. Re carpeted and decorated maisonette. 2 large bedrooms, close shops and tube. £190 pw. Tel 01-821 5494 or (08043) 3395.

PUTNEY Bright mod flat 2 dbl bed grge nr Tube/rail/shops £180 pw 01-877 0417 aft 6pm.

RICHMOND Spacious 2 bed Vic Hse. Prime location/ clse centre. £825 pcm. 01-948 7786.

ST.JOHN'S WOOD 3 bed s/b Flat, shower/bath, fire place, wood floors, fully furnished Private parking Near tubes etc £200pw. Tel 01-961 0812 eves.

SW3 (Nr Chelsea Harbour). Delightful 3 bed flat. £250 pw Drury 379 4816.

VICTORIA. Lux fully equipped 3 bed, 1 recep FF flat. Lift, porter, exc location and pub trans. £360 pw. 606 9301 Day 630 1691 Eves.

W1 Stunning penthse flat, 1 bed, lge living rm/2nd bed, Kit/din., bath, lge roof terrace. £185k sale or £350 p/w ono. Avail 8th Jan. 01 706 0049/ 940 8568

W1 Quiet 2 room flat, top floor (no lift). Jan 12-March 12. £140 PW 01-935 5107.

W14 SINCLAIR GARDENS. Self contained spacious studio. Fully furnished, F/F kit, large storage space. Near tube and amenities. £125 pw excl. 01 382 1563. (Day time only).

W8 New beaut des apts in fine period hs. 1,2 + 3 beds. £275 - £775 pw About town 221 0111

WANTED Central London apartments & houses from £150 - £500 pw. Furn/unfurn for waiting clients. Simmonds & Co 724 7765 11am - 8pm

RENTALS CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

★IT'S ALL AT★ TRAILFINDERS
More low cost flights via more routes to more destinations than any other agency
PLUS
• Fast, expert, high-tech service
• Free worldwide hotel and car hire pass
• Stopovers just about anywhere
Immunisation, Insurance Map and Book Shop
TRAILFINDERS
42-48 Earls Court Road London W8 6EJ
OPEN 9-6 MON-SAT 9-7 THURS 10-2 SUN
Longhaul Flights 01 938 3366
USA/Europe Flights 01 937 5400
1st and Business Class 01 938 3444
Government Licensed/Bonded
ATOL 1458 IATA ABTA 69701

Some discounted schedule flights when booked through non IATA/ABTA travel agencies may not be covered by a bonding protection scheme. Therefore, readers should consider the necessity for independent travel insurance and should be satisfied that they have taken all precautions before entering into travel arrangements.

When Booking Air Charter based travel you are strongly advised to obtain the name and ATOL number of the Tour Operator with whom you will contracted. You should ensure that the confirmation advice carries this information. If you have any doubts check with the ATOL Section of the Civil Aviation Authority on
01-832 5620

ABOVE-AVERAGE Disc. U.T.C. 01-848 4662 or (0753) 21750. (Near Heathrow). Abta 84966.

AFRICAN/AUSTRALIAN Seats Specialists - Visa/Access Africa 01-392 1747. Australia 01-878 8146. World travel. IATA 91216974. ABTA 8019X.

AMAZINGLY Cheap fares - USA, Canada, Aust/NZ, S America, Far East, Middle East, Africa & Asia. 1 call save £££s. Jupiter 01-436 2711 Access/Visa.

CHEAP Flights Worldwide. Haymarket Tvl. 01-930 1366.

CHINA, Australia. Worldwide Travel. Ring 01 735 1879 for brochure now.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR and last minute bookings for incl hols or reliable flights. Mario Travel Co Ltd. ABTA Agent No 42536. Tel 0924 276344.

COSTCUTTERS on flights & hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Diplomat Travel Services Ltd: 01-730 2201. ABTA 25703 IATA/ATOL 1355

CUT PRICE Club & 1st class USA & worldwide. 01-224 4277.

FLORIDA - Orlando. Privately owned, 2 new superior luxury detached bungalows, 1 with private swimming pool. Close to Disney World. Both sleep 8. Vacancies Feb/Mar/Nov/Dec 1990, also bookings now being taken for 1991 from £400pw. Tel (087255) 2094.

HOLS/FLTS Cyprus Greece Malta Spain Morocco. Panworld/ Greekorama Travel Ltd. 734 2562 ABTA 32980 ATOL 1438

LATIN AMERICA. Low cost flights e.g. Rio £515, Lima £485 rtn low season. Also small Group Tours. JLA 01-747-3108 ABTA 86321 Fully Bonded

LISBON COAST Costa Verde, Algarve, Tenerife. Flights, villas and appts, hotels, pousadas & tours. Car hire. Longmere Int. 01-655 2112. ABTA 73196.

LOW Fares Worldwide - USA, N/S America, Australia, Far East, Africa. Airline Apt'd Agt Trayvale, 48 Margaret Street, W1. 01 580 2928 (Visa Accep).

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

LOW AIRFARES WORLDWIDE

Dubai	£310	LA/SFO	£265
Bangkok	£370	N York	£185
Cairo	£199	Nairobi	£365
Delhi/Bom	£320	Paris	£58
Frankfurt	£64	Harare	£450
Joburg	£481	Sydney/Mel	£575
GVA/ZRH	£79	H/Kong	£460
Hamburg	£79	Auckland	£730
Berlin	£89	Toronto	£199
Munich	£84	Istanbul	£139
Perth	£610	Singapore	£420

Ring now for other destinations also 1st & Club Class
EWING TRAVEL 01-589 3634
70 Old Brompton Road, Sth Ken SW7
Major Credit Cards Accepted

TAKE TIME OFF to Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva, Madrid, Rome, Florence, Venice, Vienna and Budapest. Time Off Chester Close London SW1. 01-235 8070. ABTA 58374

TUNISIA & MOROCCO. The best beach hotels in North Africa. Call us at the Tunisian Hotel Assoc. Tel: 01-373 4411.

WINTER SPORTS

SKI WHIZZ Happy Christmas Everyone! "SKI-HI" the 1990's **SPECIAL PRICES** Dec 30th from £229 Jan 13th from £179 1 wk Catered Chalets incl flights Take this wonderful opportunity to start the New Decade on the right foot! Great Food Good Company **UNBEATABLE VALUE** 0284 750805 (24) Extra Welcome Ltd ATOL 2219

BARGAIN 6/13 Jan Argentiere qty ski chalets catered. Alpine Life 0703 269658

CHALET PARTIES for up to 30 pers in superb French/Austrian resorts. Ski Total 01-948 6922.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS & N.Y. in Andorra or French Alps, by air or self-drive. Freedom Holidays 01-741 4471 (ATOL 432)

IT'S SNOWING Call Ski Scott Dunn for late availability over New Year. Catered chalets in Champery & Zermatt. 01-602 8029 ATOL 2471

MERIBEL Chalet parties, cordon bleu cuisine, New Year avail. Ski Bel Air 0924 468286 24hrs

NEW YEAR specials. Prices down on 30/12 in catered chalets Courchevel with Le Ski. Tel: 0484 548996. ATOL 2307.

SKI SFV - We provide top quality catered chalet holidays in traditional French resorts. A limited number of special offers are now available on early bookings for post Christmas dates. SFV Holidays Ltd. Summer House, Hernes Road, Summertown, Oxford. 0865 57738

U.K. HOLIDAYS

AVAIL. XMAS. Self-contained double bedroomed flat in 17th Century Cotswold hill top manor house - own grounds, stunning views. NY also avail. £120 pw inc. Phone (0453) 872531 or Fax (0453) 873799.

DRISCOLL HOUSE Hotel 200 single rms. £100 pw partial board. Apply 172 New Kent Rd, London SE1 4YT Tel:01-703 4175

SERVICED FLATS London Kensington from only £375 pw +VAT. Ring 01-373 3433.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

EXPERIENCED mature couple for hands-on management of lake estate nr Washington DC. Duties inc: Cooking, cleaning, maintenance. Sep living quarters, health benefits & transport provided. Min 2 yr tour. Salary commensurate with experience. Send CV & refs to: Hunter Properties, 2911 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, Virginia 22124, USA

HEAD CHEF required, experience in Sezchuan Cuisine necessary. Attractive salary, apply to The Pagoda Restaurant, Sutton Cross, Dublin. Tel Dublin 390218

SITUATIONS WANTED

INTELLEGENT Educated, hard working 23 year old seeks high presure salaried career in city. Ex refs. 385 7532 after 7pm.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PASTORAL MEASURE 1983
The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft pastoral scheme providing for the parish of Saint George, Carrington to be declared redundant and vested in the Redundant Churches Fund (Chester diocese). Copies of the draft scheme may be obtained from the Church Commissioners, 1 Millbank, London SW1P 3JZ to whom any representations should be sent to them within 21 days of the publication of this notice.

LEGAL NOTICES

RIGHT PRICE HOME FURNISHING CENTRES LIMITED
(Formerly known as Times Furnishing Company Limited)
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company number: 100167
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF RIGHT PRICE HOME FURNISHING CENTRES LIMITED
On 18 December 1989 the above named Company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Mr Richard Victor Verburgh Setchim and Colin Graham Bird of Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL were appointed joint liquidators by the members.
The liquidators give notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the above company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidators, at the above address by the 22nd day of January 1990 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidators also give notice that they will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all known creditors in full.
Dated this 18th day of December 1989
RVY Setchim, Joint Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
NO. 007367 OF 1989
MR JUSTICE HARMAN
IN THE MATTER OF FERGABROOK GROUP PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that (1) the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 11th December 1989 confirming the reduction of the capital of the Company from £15,000,000 to £7,500,000 and (2) the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 12th December 1989.
Dated this 19th day of December 1989
Gold Mann & Co
80 Fleet Street
London EC4Y 1EL

Archaeology

Central Asia site dates from 2400BC

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

New radiocarbon dates from Soviet Central Asia suggest that a society on the brink of civilization flourished there four thousand years ago, six centuries earlier than Soviet archaeologists had estimated.

Excavations this summer have yielded striking parallels with sites in Iran and Pakistan that may document a movement of people south and west out of Turkmenistan.

The dates come from excavations at the site of Gonur-depe, one of a number of large mounds on the Murghab river in the area south of the ancient city of Merv.

Two separate digs were carried out this summer, by Dr Viktor Sarianidi of the Institute of Archaeology in Moscow and Mr Fred Hiebert of Harvard University, working as part of the Soviet team.

A series of six dates suggests that the settlement flourished between 2400 and 1800 BC, although until now Dr Sarianidi has argued for a date around 1400 BC.

Large open excavations have revealed rooms packed with pottery vessels, while rubbish deposits have yielded large samples of plant remains including seeds and wood, from which the environment and economy of the prehistoric community can be reconstructed.

To the west of Gonur, and of the same period, an elaborate triple-walled building has been excavated at Togolok 21 and dated to about 1850 BC.

The outer enclosure, a square mudbrick wall with towers along the sides and at the corners, is some 150 metres square, that within it 110 metres, and the inner redoubt 80 metres (260 feet) on a side and also with towers around its walls. Small buildings are packed into all three enclosures.

Those discoveries, coeval with the Ur III and Old Babylonian dynasties in Mesopotamia and the Indus Civilisation in Pakistan, are of themselves of great importance, and have been dubbed the "Bactria-Margiana Archaeological Complex" by Professor C C Lamberg-Karlovsky of Harvard, who has been excavating in Central Asia for several years.

The sites of the complex lie along the various rivers that run north from the Hindu Kush in Afghanistan to lose themselves in the deserts of Soviet Turkmenistan.

What is more surprising, Professor Lamberg-Karlovsky says, is that burials at these sites have very close parallels at the site of Shahdad in eastern Iran, excavated nearly twenty years ago.

The brick-built chamber tombs there contain pottery, bronze axes and seals, and art objects so similar that a movement of people out of Turkmenistan through Iran around 2000 BC must be posited, he says. More distant parallels with sites in the Indus valley suggest even wider contacts.

Finds in the ancient province of Bactria, comprising northern Afghanistan and adjacent parts of the Soviet Union, have received much publicity of late, as looting of Afghan sites during the Russian occupation has sent a flood of undocumented art to the West.

These excavations, following those by Dr Sarianidi in Afghanistan in the 1970s, are placing much of this material in some sort of context and adding a new chapter to the prehistory of Central Asia.

ON THIS DAY

DEC 20 — 1892

In 1892 the Boy's Own Annual *which offered the usual ingredients — stories, articles and reminiscences — sounds a good buy, but the annual for girls sounds dreadfully arch; described as maidens, the girls are offered "correct serials skirting the verge of the propriteies"; hints on floral display and advice by the Vicar of Rochdale (what could he be saying?). Would the girls have welcomed* Just Seventeen, Jackie *or* Bella?

This year's volume of the BOY'S OWN ANNUAL (*Boy's Own Paper* office, Paternoster-row) is excellent. Any boy would be taken by the presentation on the frontispiece of Mr Watson Nicols's "Improvisatore," who seems like a cross between Cardinal and Court fool, with a genius that has broken out in broad burlesque. Another specimen of gorgeous colouring represents the gay uniforms of our native Indian army, in which Oriental tastes have evidently been consulted. With the privilege of figuring in such martial splendour recruiting should go briskly in the Indian bazaars. Yet Sowars and Sepoys are eclipsed in the bright page of canary birds, though the ornithological uniforms are of the yellow and orange-tawny. On these canaries the versatile Dr Gordon Stables discourses learnedly, as he does on corns and bunions, and many and multifarious matters. We need not say that he contributes serials as well. In these, as usual, there is great variety, though all are more or less sensational. Mr David Kerr sticks to the East and deals with semi-barbarous Russia in the 10th century in his "Champions of the Kremlin." Bears and other wild beasts play their parts with men still more ferocious, and, as Mr Kerr remarks somewhat satirically, the types have scarcely changed at the present day. "The Orchid Seekers" is a story of adventure and peril in Borneo; and we fancy few people know the malarious haunts of the head-hunters better than Mr Frederick Boyle. In the GIRL'S OWN ANNUAL (same establishment) there is more grace, if less vivacity. Even in these days, with the fashion for golf and lawn tennis, the maidens are disagreeably doomed to decorum, as they used to be condemned to the convent when they had no dowry. On the binding are three lackadaisical maidens, representing Industry, Music, and Literature, and we feel they must envy their sister "Recreation," who is joyously disporting herself with the skipping-rope before a row of beehives. Yet in this annual the girls find every recreation according with the conventionalities. There are correct serials, skirting the verge of the proprieties, and notably Miss Tytler in "A Lonely Lassie" gives us one of her pleasant Scottish stories. The name of the author of "Israel Mort" and "Abel Drake's Wife" vouches for the interest of "A Battle with Destiny." There are other authors of the sterner sex who are invited to tread the sacred precincts, and the Venerable Archdeacon Wilson, the Vicar of Rochdale gives the girls a deal of excellent advice. Embroidery and the kindred arts are only profitable in so far as they fleece the charitable at fancy fairs. But we may call special attention to a set of articles on floral decoration, now that many a dreary dinner table is brightened by a graceful floral display, and when there are creditable efforts at thanksgiving in country churches for harvests that have fallen lamentably below par. There are pleasant light papers on promiscuous themes; and, by the way, we admire the insinuating loyalty of Lady William Lennox to the journal to which she contributes, when, describing a rough crossing of the Irish Channel, she mentions that the paper she selected for reading between Kingstown and Dublin was the *Girl's Own*. We need not add that there is much about indoor and outdoor game; and there are the invariable articles on the adornment of the person.

Royal Society

At a meeting of the Council, the President, Sir George Porter, appointed the following to be vice-presidents for the forthcoming year:

Professor R W K Honeycombe, treasurer of the Royal Society and Emeritus Professor of Metallurgy in the University of Cambridge; Professor B K Follett, biological secretary of the Royal Society and Professor of Zoology and Director of Biological Studies in the University of Bristol; Sir Francis Graham-Smith, physical secretary of the Royal Society, Astronomer Royal and Langworthy Professor of Physics and Pro-Vice-Chancellor in the University of Manchester; Professor M A Epstein, foreign secretary of the Royal Society and Emeritus Professor of Pathology in the University of Bristol; Dr Brigitte A Askonas, formerly head of Division of Immunology, National Institute for Medical Research, Mill Hill; Sir Aaron Klug, director of the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge; Professor I A Shanks, Chief Scientist, Thorn-EMI PLC, and Visiting Professor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the University of Glasgow; Professor E C Zeeman, Principal of Hertford College, Oxford, Honorary Professor of Mathematics in the University of Warwick, Gresham Professor of Geometry, Gresham College, City of London, and Visiting Professor of Mathematics at the Royal Institution of Great Britain.

Latest wills

Mr Roger Alfred St John Hart, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £8,278,109 net.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Michael L Banks, Prison Chaplain, Blundeston, diocese Norwich: to be Vicar, St Luke, Leagrave, Luton, diocese St Albans.
The Rev Arthur M Barton, Vicar, St James', Wetherby, and Rural Dean of Harrogate, diocese Ripon: to be also an Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral, same diocese.
The Rev Clive J Bodden, Team Vicar, Brixham, diocese Exeter: to be Rector, Exton and Winsford and Cutcombe w Luxborough, diocese Bath and Wells.
The Rev Anthony A J Claridge, Curate, (NSM), Keynsham Team Ministry, diocese Bath and Wells: to be also Bishop's Officer for Non-stipendiary Ministry, same diocese.
The Rev Andrew F Davis, Vicar, St Andrew's, Sudbury, and Area Dean of Brent, diocese London: to be Vicar, Christ the Saviour, Ealing, same diocese.
Rev Andrew Evans: to be Curate (NSM), Bathwick St Mary and St John, diocese Bath and Wells.
Rev James A V Florance, Curate, Little Ilford, diocese Chelmsford: to be Team Vicar, Becontree South, same diocese.
Rev Keith P Hallett, Vicar, Fazeley, St Paul, diocese Lichfield: to be Priest-in-charge, Buckhurst Hill, diocese Chelmsford.
Rev Andrew Hawkins: to be Chaplain to the City of Bath College, diocese Bath and Wells.
Rev Graham A Hendy, Team Rector, Upton Cum Chalvey, and Team Rector, Slough, diocese Oxford: to be diocesan Lay Training Officer, and Rector, South Walsham w Upton, diocese Norwich.
Rev Christopher Hollis, Vicar, St Mary Magdalene, Madonsley, diocese Durham: to be Vicar, St Paul's, Deptholme, diocese Bradford.
Rev Jonathan R Holmes, Vicar, St James, Manston, Leeds, diocese Ripon: to be also an Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral, same diocese.
Rev Jeffrey D W King, Rector, Moor Allerton team ministry, Leeds, diocese Ripon: to be also an Honorary Canon of Ripon Cathedral, same diocese.
Rev John G Lovejoy: to be Curate, Shepshed St Botolph, diocese Leicester.
Rev Anthony P Lury, Vicar, Christ the King, Salfords, Redhill, diocese Southwark: to be Vicar, All Saints, Emscote, Warwick, diocese Coventry.
Rev Brian J Meney, Team Rector, Plaistow, diocese Chelmsford: to be Vicar, Church of the Epiphany, Gipton, Leeds, diocese Ripon.
Rev Brian M C Morris, non-stipendiary Assistant Curate, All Saints, Denmead, Havant, diocese Portsmouth: to be Assistant Curate, St Mary and St Andrew, Hayling Island, same diocese.
Rev Peter E P Norton, Vicar, Warcop, Musgrave, Soulby and Crosby Garrett, diocese Carlisle: to be Rector, Ormside, and Vicar, Appleby, same diocese.
Rev Simon J Robinson, Rector, St Mary's Episcopal Church, Dalmahoy, and Anglican Chaplain to Heriot Watt University, diocese Edinburgh: to be Priest-in-charge, Leeds, Emmanuel, and Senior Anglican Chaplain to Leeds University, diocese Ripon.
Rev Jack D Smith, Rector, Barton Bendish, Beachamwell and Boughton, and Vicar, Wereham, diocese Ely: to be Rector, Silverstone and Abthorpe w Slapton, diocese Peterborough.
Rev Terry Stokes, Team Rector, Wellington and District team ministry, diocese Bath and Wells: to be also Rural Dean of Tone, same diocese.
Rev Heather Williams, Curate (NSM), Lyngford, Taunton, diocese Bath and Wells: to be Senior Assistant (stipendiary), Worle, same diocese.
Rev Shamus F C Williams, Assistant Curate, St Albans, St Peter, diocese St Albans: to be Team Vicar, the Saffron Walden team ministry, with special responsibility for Wendens Ambo and Littlebury, diocese Chelmsford.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Wilson Croker, politician and writer, Galway, 1780; Thomas Graham, chemist, Glasgow, 1805; Sir Robert Menzies, prime minister of Australia 1939-41, 1949-66, Jeparit, Victoria, 1894.

DEATHS: Ambrose Paré, surgeon, Paris, 1590; John Steinbeck, novelist, New York, 1968. The first General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, 1560.

Bridge

The British Junior Bridge team successfully defended the Channel Trophy last weekend at Ostend. Scores: Great Britain 100 victory points, Belgium 94, Netherlands 84, France 82. British Team: D Davies, P Dunsby, J Hobson, P King, C Small, A Bowles, npc J F Pottage.

Appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr John Desmond Augustine Fennell, QC, to be a Justice of the High Court, assigned to the Queen's Bench Division.

THE TIMES

Christmas Copy Deadlines

Issue dated	Copy deadline
Saturday, 23rd December	12.50pm Thursday, 21st Dec
Tuesday, 26th December	5.30pm Thursday, 21st Dec
Wednesday, 27th December	5.30pm Thursday, 21st Dec
Thursday, 28th December	5.00pm Friday, 22nd Dec

(Cancellations and alterations by 5pm, Wednesday 20th December, 1989).

New Year Copy Deadlines

Issue dated	Copy deadline
Saturday, 30th December	12.50pm Thursday, 28th Dec
Monday, 1st January	5.30pm Thursday, 28th Dec
Tuesday, 2nd January	5.00pm Friday, 29th Dec

(Cancellations and alterations by 5pm, Wednesday 27th December, 1989).

INFORMATION SERVICE



This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
☆ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE

LONDON

☆ **THE BEAUX' STRATAGEM** Peter Wood's NT/Belgrade (Coventry) production in London after nationwide tour.
Lyttelton, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2252). Tube: Waterloo. Tonight 7.30pm, £7-£15.50. (D)

☆ **BUDDY**: Musical play on the life of the great, late Buddy Holly catches the sound and spirit of those far off days.
Victoria Palace Theatre, Victoria St, London SW1 (01-834 1317). Tube: Victoria. Mon-Thurs 8pm, Fri, Sat 8.30pm, mats Fri, Sat 5.30pm. £7-£18.50, Fri mat half price.

☆ **THE CHERRY ORCHARD**: Judi Dench heads an outstanding cast in major production by Sam Mendes.
Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, London WC2 (01-836 6404). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Fri 7.30-10pm, Sat 8-10.30pm, mat Sat 4-6.30pm, £5.50-£16.50.

☆ **THE GOOD PERSON OF SICHUAN**: Deborah Warner's strong and thought-provoking production, with Fiona Shaw as a good person who succeeds by seeming nasty.
Olivier, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2252). Tube: Waterloo. Tonight 7.15pm, tomorrow 2pm and 7.15pm. £7-£15.50, weekday mats, all tickets £6.

☆ **THE LIAR**: Jonathan Miller's spirited production of the sparky Corneille comedy: Alex Jennings marvellous as the shyster hero and Desmond Barrit as his incredulous servant.
Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-928 7616). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm, £7-£15. (D)

☆ **LADY BETTY**: Declan Donnellan's stylish play with songs for Cheek by Jowl: based on a true story of the Roscommon murderess who became public hangwoman.
Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury & Islington. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm, £6-£10. (D)

☆ **THE LADY OR THE TIGER**: Great family show for Christmas: revival of the Orange Tree's favourite musical based on the old dilemma; smashing tunes.
Orange Tree Theatre, Kew Road, Richmond (01-940 3633). Tube: Richmond. Mon-Sat 8pm, weekday mats Dec 28, and 29, Jan 4, and 5, 2.30pm. Sat mats 4.30pm, £3.50-£6.50.

☆ **OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD**: Triple award-winning play by Timberlake Wertenbaker, set in New South Wales 200 years ago where a batch of convicts are ordered to become actors.
Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Rd, EC2 (01-379 6107). Tube: Leicester Sq. Mon-Thurs 8-10.20pm, Fri and Sat 8.15-10.35pm, mats Fri and Sat 5-7.20pm, £7.50-£15. (D)

☆ **THE VOYSEY INHERITANCE**: Jeremy Northam, David Burke, Michael Bryant in nicely timed revival of Granville Barker's excellent play.
Cottesloe, National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 (01-928 2252). Tube: Waterloo. Tonight 7.30pm, tomorrow 2.30pm and 7.30pm. £8.50. (D)

LONG RUNNERS: ☆ **Cats**: New London Theatre (01-405 0072) . . . ☆ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses**: Ambassador Theatre (01-836 6111) . . . ☆ **Me and My Girl**: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913) . . . ☆ **Les Misérables**: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909) . . . ☆ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443) . . . ★ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244) . . . ☆ **Run For Your Wife**: Whitehall Theatre (01-867 1119) . . . ☆ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665).

OUT OF TOWN

BRISTOL: ☆ **Oliver Twist**: Poorhouse boy asks for more, steals a hankie but finds happiness in new stage version by Jeremy Brock.
Theatre Royal, King Street (0272 250250). Wed-Fri 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Fri 3pm, £4-£11. (D)

LIVERPOOL: ☆ **Great Expectations**: Cheryl Kennedy sings Miss Havisham, Robert Hands and Tracy Childs the troubled young lovers, in musical version of Dickens.
Playhouse, Williamson Square (051 709 8363). Wed, Thurs 7.30pm, Fri 8pm, mat Wed 2.30, £3-£6.90.

MANCHESTER: ☆ **The Red Balloon**: Musical treatment of the popular French film about a boy and his faithful balloon.
Contact Theatre, Manchester (061 274 4400). Wed 10am and 1.30pm, Thurs, Fri 1.30pm and 7.30pm. Mats £3.25, eves £4.50. (D)

FILMS

■ Also on national release
☎ Advance booking possible

■ **AU REVOIR LES ENFANTS (PG)**: Louis Malle's moving, semi-autobiographical drama, set in a provincial boarding school in the last months of the Second World War. Gaspard Manesse heads the young, non-professional cast (107 min).
Cannon Premiere (01-439 4470). Progs 2.10, 4.30, 7.00, 9.25.

■ **BACK TO THE FUTURE II (PG)**: Enjoyably antic but over-ingenious sequel to the 1985 hit, with Michael J. Fox and Christopher Lloyd zipping to-and-fro through the time spectrum; directed as before by Robert Zemeckis (108 min).
Barbican (01-638 8891). Progs 6.00, 8.30.
Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 2.10, 5.25, 8.10.
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.05.
Empire (01-437 1234). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45.
Plaza (01-437 1234). Progs 12.30, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30.
Screen on the Green (01-226 3520). Progs 2.00, 4.10, 6.30, 8.50.
Whiteley's 2 & 3 (01-792 3303). Progs 11.00, 11.30, 1.30, 2.00, 4.05, 4.30, 6.30, 7.05, 9.00, 9.40.

■ **DO THE RIGHT THING (18)**: Spike Lee's militant entertainment about racial tension on a boiling hot day in Brooklyn, with Danny Aiello and Ossie Davis (120 min).
☎ **Empire** (01-437 1234). Progs 1.00, 12.15, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30.

NEW YORK STORIES (15): Uneven trilogy from three major directors: abrasive drama from Martin Scorsese; footling whimsy from Francis Coppola; delicious laughter from Woody Allen, playing a repressed attorney whose nagging mother mysteriously vanishes (125 min).
Warner West End (01-439 0791). Progs 2.50, 5.35, 8.20.
☎ **Minema** (01-235 4225). Progs 1.45, 4.15, 6.45, 9.15.

WHEN HARRY MET SALLY (15): Engaging romantic comedy, with Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan as professional Manhattanites who gradually fall for each other. Written by Nora Ephron, directed by Rob Reiner (95 min).
Odeon Haymarket (01-839 7697). Progs 1.50, 4.20, 6.50, 9.20.
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.35, 3.55, 7.20, 9.40.
Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366). Progs 2.30, 4.50, 6.55, 9.00.
Odeon Kensington (01-602 5193). Progs 1.30, 3.55, 6.25, 8.55.

A Stubbs in the frame

Still fondly remembered for playing a teenage daughter in TV's *Till Death Us Do Part*, Una Stubbs (right), whose own children are now teenagers themselves, hasmade a return from television to the stage. From tomorrow she appears at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, in James Maxwell's production of *She Stoops To Conquer*, playing the vain and domineering Mrs Hardcastle. In the role of her son, Tony Lumpkin, is Andy Serkis who played her son in the BBC television drama *Morris Minor's Marvellous Motors*, and the role of bossy woman will also bring memories of her Aunt Sally in the Worzel Gummidge series. After its seven week run at Manchester, the production sets off on a national tour sponsored by Mobil to Nottingham, Bradford, Cambridge, Basildon, Edinburgh and Belfast. A similar tour a year ago of *Arms and the Man* proved highly successful, making it possible that the Mobil Touring Theatre will become an annual event. Lorraine Ashbourne and Peter Lindford play Kate and Young Marlowe, with Ewan Hooper as Mrs Hardcastle's much put-upon husband. The company also includes a Yorkshire Terrier and a Border Collie making their professional debut. *She Stoops to Conquer*, Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's Square, Manchester (061 833 9833). Opens tomorrow 7pm, Friday 8pm, Saturday 4pm and 8pm, £3.20-£13.00. ***Jeremy Kingston***



Una Stubbs: a welcome return to the stage in Manchester tomorrow

CONCERTS

LUNCHTIME

TELEMANN TUNES: Conducted as ever by Peter Lea-Cox, members of the Lecosaldi Ensemble present Telemann's E minor Oboe Sonata, immediately preceding this with *Bereite dich Zion* from Bach's Christmas Oratorio.
St Anne and St Agnes's, Gresham St, London EC2 (01-373 5566), 1.10-1.50pm, free.



There are always many performances of Handel's *The Messiah* around Christmas time. Tonight's at the Royal Festival Hall (see listing) should be outstanding however, as it combines the Huddersfield Choral Society, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and distinguished soloists under the baton of the Australian conductor Sir Charles Mackerras (above). To judge from his operatic performances, we can expect him to bring vital rhythm, a strong sense of colour, and keen grasp of dramatic pace to Handel's oratorio, plus a scholarly concern for textual accuracy and correct interpretative style.

EVENING

☆ **COMELY AND CLENE**: Harry Christophers conducts The Sixteen in P. Maxwell Davies's *Hail Comely and Clene*, Walton's *Make We Joy Now*, Tavener's *The Lamb*, Warlock's *Balulalow*, Mouton's *Nesciens Mater* and other Christmas pieces.
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061), 7.30pm, £7-£12.

☆ **FABLES, FOIBLES**: To raise funds for Aid Armenia the Chilingirian Quartet, sometimes with Steven Isserlis (cello) or Jeremy Menuhin (piano), play Begiarian's *Of Fables, Foibles and Fancies*, Dvořák's Piano Quintet, Schubert's Quintet D 956, and pieces by Aslamazian and Komitas.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £7.50-£15. (D)

☆ **MACKERRAS MESSIAH**: (see picture left)
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800), 7.30-10.30pm, £4.50-£20.

☆ **VILLET VENTURE**: Manuel Villet undertakes Liszt's Piano Sonata, Schumann's *Davidsbündlertänze* and Beethoven's *Hammerklavier* Sonata.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800), 8pm, £3-£6. (D)

OPERA

☆ **HANSEL AND GRETEL**: Revival of David Pountney's magical 1950s-style production for the ENO, with Ethna Robinson and Cathryn Pope returning, irresistibly to their roles of the babes lost in the woods of Neasden. Mark Elder conducts.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161), 7.30-9.45pm, £3-£38. (D)

☆ **SHOW BOAT**: Outstanding new production by Ian Judge for Opera North, with Graeme Jenkins conducting a cast including Sally Burgess and Peter Savidge.
Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532 459351), 7.15-10.15pm, £5-£21. (D)

JAZZ

☆ **FRANK CAMPBELL**: A rare outing by the veteran keyboard player, accompanied by Kenny Wheeler (trumpet/fluegelhorn) and Barry Guy (bass/percussion).
Jazz Café, 56 Newington Green, London N16 (01-359 4936), 8.30pm, £3.

☆ **GEORGE MELLY**: Good Time George continues his annual residency, backed as usual by John Chilton's Feetwarmers. Support from the house quintet.
Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith St, London W1 (01-439 0747), 9.30pm, £10 (members £2). Until 31 Dec.

☆ **DAVE DEFRIES/ROLAND PERRIN**: Duets from the former Loose Tubes trumpeter and the deft keyboard player from Evidence.
Charley's, 8 Charleville Rd, London W14 (01-381 4736), 8.30pm, £2.50.

ROCK

☆ **DR JOHN**: The eminent New Orleans *Gris Gris* master hacked away like a pub pianist in the corner on his dates at this venue last Spring. Jools Holland would have eaten him for breakfast.
Mean Fiddler, 24-28 Harlesden High Street, London NW10 (01-961 5490), 7.30pm, £8, for two nights.

☆ **SAM BROWN**: Like her contemporary, Kim Wilde, she is now more successful than her famous Dad (Joe) used to be.
Town & Country, 8-17 Highgate Road, London NW5 (01-284 0303), 7.30pm, £7.50.

☆ **THE JESUS AND MARY CHAIN**: Part anarcho-guitar heroes, part Velvet Underground *manqués*, and part garage band arrivistes, they remain one of the more enigmatic acts to have emerged in the Eighties.
National, 234 Kilburn High Road, London NW6 (01-328 3141), 7.30pm, £8.

☆ **BIG AUDIO DYNAMITE**: Mick Jones's West London vagabond posse on home turf. All that *Megatop Phoenix* stuff about cowboys and Indians wandering round the wild West End sounds a bit tired.
Subterania, 12 Acklam Road, London W10 (01-960 0590), 7.30pm, £7, also tomorrow and Friday.

DANCE

☆ **LAS HERMANAS**: Revival of Kenneth MacMillan's dance drama by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, with two other early works by him, *Danses Concertantes* and *Solitaire*.
Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC2 (01-278 8916), 7.30pm, £4-£22.50.

★ **PRINCE OF THE PAGODAS**: MacMillan's latest production for the Royal Ballet; a fairytale to Benjamin Britten's music.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066), 7.30pm, £1-£41.

GALLERIES

ART IN THE MAKING: A didactic exhibition demonstrating the techniques and studio practices of 14th century Italian artists.
The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (01-839 3321). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm, free, until Feb 28.

MARY POTTER (1900-1981): A retrospective of gentle landscape paintings.
Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Kendal, Cumbria (0539 22464). Mon-Fri 10.30am-5pm, Sat-Sun 2-5pm, free, until Dec 30.

DEGAS — IMAGES OF WOMEN: Paintings and drawings by an impressionist famed in his day for misogyny.
Tate Gallery, Albert Dock, Liverpool (051 709 3223). Tues-Sun 11-7pm, £2, until Dec 31.

PRE-RAPHAELITES: PAINTERS AND PATRONS IN THE NORTH EAST: A show bringing together the impressive collections amassed by Newcastle's Victorian industrialists.
Laing Art Gallery, Higham Place, Newcastle (091-232 7734). Tues-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-4.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm, £1, until Jan 14.

CELTIC STONE SCULPTURES: Eighteen stone heads of varying sizes from 1st to 3rd centuries AD, all originating from the Manchester and South Yorkshire areas.
Karsten Schubert Gallery, 85 Charlotte Street, London W1 (01-631 0031). Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, free, until Jan 20.

INIGO JONES (1573-1652): Drawings of buildings, costumes and set designs by the architect of the Queen's House, Greenwich, and Banqueting House, Whitehall.
Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-439 7438). Daily 10am-6pm, £2.50, until Feb 25.

TALKS

GET A HEAD SURGERY: Past and present developments in the field of head surgery by J Brice, consultant neurosurgeon.
Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2 (01-405 3474), 3pm, free.

WALKS

INNS OF COURT, LAWYERS AND BRITISH JUSTICE: Meet Chancery Lane tube, 11am, £3 (01-624 9981).

COCKNEY LONDON FROM 1066: Meet St Paul's tube, 11am, £3.50 (01-504 9159).

BEATLES LONDON: Meet Green Park tube, 11am, £3.50 (01-837 4281).

OTHER EVENTS

MEDIEVAL MUSIC FOR CHRISTMASTIDE: The new London Consort with popular Christmas songs from the Middle Ages — the early models of today's carols — plus music to celebrate The Feast of Fools — New Year's Day.
Snape Maltings Concert Hall, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (0728 453543). 7.30pm, £3.60-£7.80.

FINE TOYS, DOLLS AND CHRISTMAS COSTUMES: Sale of early tin plate toys, 19th and 20th century children's costumes, soft toys — from bears to monkeys — a wide range of dolls, many with bisque heads and a selection of juvenilia with a Christmas theme.
Phillips West Two, 10 Salem Road, London W2 (01-229 9090), 12 noon.

FILM CLASSICS AT CHRISTIE'S: Many famous screen costumes will come under the hammer today including an early Fred Karno outfit, a champagne satin wedding dress worn by Bette Davis, a Russian sable stole worn by Marilyn Monroe and bowler hats belonging to Laurel and Hardy. Also some early Errol Flynn love letters, many photographs, autographs and signed drawings plus film stills and posters.
Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-581 7611), 2pm.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

SOUTH BANK: January concerts include ILEA bands in concert, Yehudi Menuhin with YMSO, Humphrey Lyttelton Band and Michael Nyman band perform music for Peter Greenaway films. Also Kenny Wheeler 60th birthday concert, and Mozart and Schubert birthday celebrations.
South Bank Concert Halls, London SE1 (01-928 8800).

NATIONAL THEATRE IN SPRING: Platform performances include Gary Taylor on "reinventing Shakespeare"; discussions on impact of Olivier and his work; Tony Benn, MP, talks about his new political diaries; Stephen Sondheim answers questions about his new musical; and John Mortimer talks about writing for theatre and TV. Tickets: £2.50, bookable in advance. Jan 29-March 22.
National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2252). Postal booking open. Personal/phone from Jan 15.

LAST CHANCE

STAINED GLASS DESIGN: Watercolours by artists and architects, 1860-1930. Ends Fri.
Moss Galleries, 236 Brompton Road, London SW3 (01-225 3389).

I'M BLACK, I'M BAJAN, I'M BRITISH: Photos by David Bailey. Ends Fri.
Tom Allen Centre, Grove Crescent Road, London E15 (01-555 8439).

RUSSIAN ART IN LONDON: More than 200 oil paintings from Russia including the famous painting by Anatoly Kazantsev "The Storming of the Winter Palace". Ends Fri.
Roy Miles Gallery, 29 Bruton Street, London W1 (01-495 4747).

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; **Films**: Geoff Brown; **Concerts**: Max Harrison; **Opera**: Hilary Finch; **Rock**: David Sinclair; **Jazz**: Clive Davis; **Dance**: John Percival; **Galleries**: David Lee; **Walks and Talks**: Kari Lloyd; **Other Events**: Judy Froshaug; **Bookings**: Anne Whitehouse.

CLASSICAL TOP 20

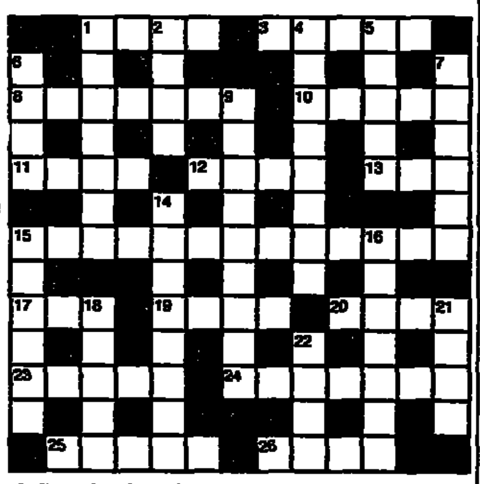
1	(1)	Vivaldi: Four Seasons	Kennedy/ECO, *EMI*
2	(2)	Elgar: Cello Concerto	Barbirolli/LSO/Baker/Du Pré, *EMI*
3	(4)	Bizet: Carmen Highlights	Norman/S Ozawa/ONDF, *Polygram*
4	(3)	Mendelssohn/Bruch/Schubert	Kennedy/Tate/ECO, *EMI*
5	(5)	Vivaldi: Four Seasons	L'Oiseau Lyre, *Polygram*
6	(11)	Albinoni: Adagio	Karajan/BPO, *Polygram*
7	(6)	Elgar: Cello Concerto	Barenboim/PDO/Du Pré, *CBS*
8	(8)	Highlights of Swan Lake	Ermler/ROHO, *Royal Opera*
9	(7)	Lloyd Webber: Requiem	Domingo/Brightman/Maazel/ECO, *EMI*
10	(9)	Holst: The Planets	Karajan/BPO, *Polygram*
11	(10)	Highlights of Nutcracker	Ermler/ROHO, *Royal Opera*
12	(14)	Handel: Messiah	Pinnock/ECO, *Polygram*
13	(15)	Sibelius: Symphony No 5	Kennedy/Rattle/CBSO, *EMI*
14	(-)	Prokofiev: Saint-Saëns	Stamp/AL, *Virgin*
15	(12)	Elgar: Cello Concerto	Menuhin/RPO/Webber, *Polygram*
16	(16)	Beethoven: Symphony No 5	Karajan/BPO, *Polygram*
17	(13)	Mahler: Resurrection	Kaplan, *Pickwick*
18	(17)	Bizet: Carmen Highlights	Karajan, BPO, *Polygram*
19	(-)	Vivaldi: Four Seasons	Perlman/LPO, *EMI*
20	(-)	Faure: Requiem	Dutoit/MSO/Te Kanawa, *Polygram*

Source: Music Week Research

Tomorrow

A guide to winter sales — the best bargains around the country

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2057



ACROSS
1 George V's wife line (4)
3 Impress mark (5)
8 Drink remnant (4,3)
10 Nick (5)
11 Othello, — of Venice (4)
12 Ship's track (4)
13 In favour (3)
15 Week-lasting rhyme man (7,6)
17 Vase (3)
19 Study hard (4)
20 Pour (4)
23 Enchantress (5)
24 Moving ice mass (7)
25 Writing tablet (5)
26 Repudiate (4)

DOWN
1 3-lobed leaf (7)
3 Financial world (4)
4 Decade (3,5)
5 Musical theme (5)
6 Fake (4)
7 Cheerful, lively (6)
9 Gregorian chant (9)
14 Runaway success (5,3)
15 Screech (6)
16 Cancel out (7)
18 Pietermaritzburg province (5)
21 Livelihood (4)
22 Flower vessel (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 2056
ACROSS: 1 Nigel Lawson 9 Infests 10 Swish 11 Hat 13 Flab 16 Jade 17 Ashram 18 Lett 20 Limb 21 Angina 22 Ovid 23 Hajj 25 Jos 28 Elide 29 Preview 30 Mickey Mouse
DOWN: 2 Infra 3 Easy 4 Lash 5 West 6 Origami 7 Eiffel Tower 8 Check by jowl 12 Ataxia 14 Bat 15 Shinto 19 Tbilisi 20 Lab 24 Alias 25 Jerk 26 Spay 27 Zeno

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

JUD
(b) A mass of coal holed or undercut so as to be thrown down by wedges, origin unknown, cf. *jud* the name for a cut in Bath-stone quarries: "Killed in the Low Main seam while drawing a jud."

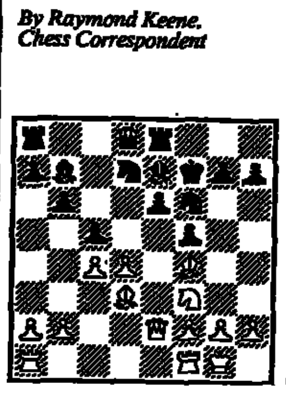
SCALL
(a) Scurvy or mean, from the Old Norse *skalle* a bald head; *Merry Wives of Windsor*: "To be revenge upon this same scall-scurvy-cogging-companion the Host of the Garter."

DUPION
(a) A double cocoon made by two silk-worms spinning together, also a kind of coarse silk made from these cocoons, from the Italian *doppione* double: "Not many of these Chinese or Japanese dupions are exported, being reserved for native use."

BILIAN
(c) The heavy, ant-proof lauraceous timber tree of Borneo, the ironwood, from the Malay word: "That wonderful wood bilian, the Bornean ironwood."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game between Alekhine (White) against Feldt (Black) Tarnopol 1916. White plays and wins. The answer will be given in tomorrow's *Times*.

Solution to yesterday's position: Black wins with 1...Qc4 2 Qxc4 Rxd1+ 3 Qf1 Bd4+.

WINNING MOVE



In some editions of yesterday's Times, the wrong question was published in Winning Move. Here is the correct puzzle and chessboard. We apologize for this error.

This position is from Grunfeld (White) against Alekhine (Black) Carlsbad 1923. Black plays and wins. The winning move is published at the foot of the puzzle on the left.

Here is the solution to Monday's position: Black wins with 1...a5 threatening to create a distant passed pawn with ...b4 and ...a4. Alekhine chose 1...c5? when 2 Ke3 c4 3 f4 exf4+ 4 Kxf4 allowed White to draw since his king can still stop the Black passed 'c' pawn.

SHEILA HANCOCK IN PRIN BY ANDREW DAVIES



"Vastly Entertaining" Mail on Sunday
LYRIC THEATRE Shaftesbury Ave W1

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't & Fri 7.30 HANSEL & GRETEL. Tomor 7.30 THE LOVE FOR 3 ORANGES.

PAVILION ON THE GREEN Ealing Common, Ealing, W5. The Gershwins' Masterpiece PORGY & BESS December 19th - January 6th at 8pm (Matinees at 2pm) Tickets £27.50, £22.50 and £17.50 FIRST CALL 01-836 3464 and major agents.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 01 928 8800 cc ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET Peter Schaufuss' production of THE NUTCRACKER 26 Dec - 20 Jan

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 240 1066/1911 Stdby info 836 6903 S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. Ton't 7.30 THE ROYAL BALLET The Prince of the Pagodas. Tomor 7.30 THE ROYAL OPERA Der Freischutz.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 First Call cc 24 hr day 240 7200 SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET Ton't Danses Concertantes, Las Hermanas, Solitaire Tomor Hobson's Choice. Eves 7.30.

THEATRES

ADELPHI 836 7611 (6 lines) CC 741 9999/379 4444 First Call 24hr cc 240 7200 (no bkg fee) Group 930 6123 NOW BOOKING TO APR 7 1990 ME AND MY GIRL THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL Nightly at 7.30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00 "THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN" Sunday Express Special Christmas Perfs See Next Weeks Listings

ALBERY 867 1115 cc 867 1111 379 4444 (No bkg fee)/741 9999 240 7200 (Bkg fee) Grps 867 1113 BEST MUSICAL SWET Award 1983 WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS "ASTONISHING...A Milestone in British Musicals" S Exp "...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4 EXTRA PERF DEC 27 AT 3

ALDWYCH (All bkgs 836 6404) Evgs 7.30 Wed 3.0 Sats 4.0 & 8.0 JUDI DENCH RONALD PICKUP BERNARD HILL THE CHERRY ORCHARD by CHEKHOV, Trans MICHAEL FRAYN "AN ADMIRABLE PRODUCTION ... THE WHOLE THING LIFTED ME SIX FEET OFF THE GROUND AND HELD ME THERE, ENTHRALLED" S.Correspondent.

ALMEIDA THEATRE 359 4404 Ends Sat CHEEK BY JOWL in LADY BETTY "Thrilling musical play" Obs. Eves 8pm Sat Mats 4pm

AMBASSADORS 01-836 6111/2 cc 836 1171 CC with bkg fee 240 7200/741 9999/379 4444 Group Sales 930 6123. Air Cond. Eves 7.30. Wed mat 3, Sat 4 & 8 LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK!

APOLLO VICTORIA SS 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Groups 828 6188 CC Open All Hours 379 4444 1st Call 240 7200 K Prowse 741 9999 Groups 930 6123 Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 SIXTH HIT YEAR! STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Directed by TREVOR NUNN SOME SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK OAP's £5 on Tues Mats NOW BOOKING TO SEPT '90 Xmas mats Wed 27 Dec and Tue 2 Jan at 3

APOLLO 01-437 2663 cc 01-379 4444/741 9999 (with bkg fee) 01-240 7200 Grps 01-930 6123. PETER O'TOOLE 'JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL' by Keith Waterhouse Directed by Ned Sherrin "AN OUTRIGHT WINNER" Eve Std. "PETER O'TOOLE IS MAGNIFICENT" F.T. Mon-Fri 8.30, Sat 5.30 & 8.45

ARTS 836 2132 cc 379 4444 From £7.50 A SLICE OF SATURDAY NIGHT "I ENJOYED MYSELF" Guardian Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.30

BARBICAN THEATRE 01-638 8891 (Mon-Sun 9am-8pm) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM "THE BEST SHOW IN TOWN FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON" Daily Tel. Until 28 Dec. Eves 7.30. Thurs Mat 2.00. No perfs 23-25 Dec. THE PIT Ton't 7.30. Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 PLAYING WITH TRAINS by Stephen Poliakoff.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE Earlham St, WC2 01-379 5299 CC 379 4444 (No Bkg Fee) 240 7200/741 9999 (Bkg Fees) Groups 240 7941 RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET Shakespeare's Forgotten Rock-and-Roll Masterpiece "SEE ONE SHOW THIS CHRISTMAS — SEE FORBIDDEN PLANET" Sunday Sunday LWT Mon-Fri 8 Thu Mat 3 (not 28 Dec) Sat 5.0 & 8.30 Special Xmas perfs 27 & 29 Dec 3pm 26 Dec 8pm

COMEDY 01 930 2578/8778 cc 839 1438/741 9999 or 24hr with bkg fee 240 7200/379 4444 Grps 930 6123/240 7941. Mon-Fri 8pm, wed at 3pm, Sat 8.45pm Quintessential Coward PATRICIA HODGE SIMON CADELL NOEL & GERTIE The very particular love story of Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence devised by Sheridan Morley with Jonathan Cohen directed by Alan Strachan Words and Music by NOEL COWARD

DOMINION 01-580 9562 Open All Hours 01-379 4444 (24 hrs) (bkg fee) Group Sales Box Office 01-930 6123 CCTB 01-741 9999 (bkg fee). MICHAEL BARRYMORE in ALADDIN with FRANK BRUNO All Star Show. Until Jan 27 Mon-Sat twice daily 2.30 & 7.15 (excl Dec 26) (No 2.30 perf Jan 12.18.19.22.26)

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL cc (Bkg Fee) 24hr 7 days 379 4444/240 7200 Grps 831 8626 MISS SAIGON BEST MUSICAL Eve Std Drama Awards 1989 Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Check daily for returns. A few balcony seats usually avail. Good seats avail for some Wed Mats Latecomers not admitted until the interval NEW BOOKING PERIOD: MARCH - JUNE '90 POSTAL BOOKINGS ONLY MAY FRI 29 DEC RESCHEDULED TO JAN 5 CALL 01-836 8108 FOR DETAILS NB. A FEW GOOD SEATS STILL AVAIL FOR EXTRA XMAS PERF 3PM FRI 22 DEC

DUKE OF YORKS 836 5122 cc 836 9837 cc 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999 Grps 836 5123 COMEDY OF THE YEAR Olivier Awards 1988 PAULA WILCOX in WILLY RUSSELL'S "GEM" SHIRLEY VALENTINE Eves 8 Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 "The audience roars approval. Shirley's spell is unbreakable" D. Mail "The funniest & the most heartwarming play for years" D M EXTRA PERFS DEC 26 & JAN 2 AT 3

Fortune Covent Garden, WC2. IDEAL FOR 3-9 YR. OLDS FATHER CHRISTMAS AND THE LOST TOYS Seats from Dec 26, mats daily £4-£8.50. Boxton 01-836 2238

FORTUNE Box Office & cc 836 2238 24hr cc bkg fee 240 7200 CHARLES KAY DOMINIC LETTS Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE SPINE CHILLER" Gdn "MASTERLY" D Exp "CHILLING" Ind "GRIPPING" FT "FIRST RATE" Ind OVER 350 PERFORMANCES! Eves 8 Mats Tues 3 Sat 4 NO PERF XMAS DAY MAT 26 DEC 8PM NOW BOOKING TO MAR '90

GARRICK Box Office/cc 01-379 6107 cc (no bkg fee) 01-836 3464/379 4444/741 9999 Royal Court Theatre's Production of OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD BEST PLAY Olivier Awards 1988 Mon-Thur 8.00. Fri & Sat 5.00 + 8.15. FRI 5.00 ALL SEATS £7.50

GLOBE THEATRE 01 437 3667/741 9999/379 4444. First Call 836 3464 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123. Eves 7.45. Sat Mat 3pm CAROLE SHELLEY HELEN RYAN MORAY WATSON in LETTICE AND LOVAGE By PETER SHAFFER Dir MICHAEL BLAKEMORE BEST COMEDY '88 E Std Award SIX WEEKS REMAINING

HER MAJESTY'S Haymarket 839 2244 CC 24hr 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA DAVE WILLETTS JILL WASHINGTON ROBERT MEADMORE Irem Bartok plays Christine at certain performances Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 Tickets available week nights June to September 1990 POSTAL APPLICATIONS ONLY

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 01 930 9832 cc 240 7200 / 379 4444 / 741 9999 bkg fee PAUL EDDINGTON "marvellous performance" Ind ANGELA THORNE "lights up the stage" Today in "Sam Mendes' fine production" Ind of Dion Boucicault's "enchanting comedy" D Tel LONDON ASSURANCE Eves 8 Mats Thu 3 Sat 4

LONDON PALLADIUM Until Jan 27 Box Office & Credit Cards & Groups 437 7373 'ALLO 'ALLO SEVEN WEEKS ONLY! Mon-Fri 8pm. Sat 5.30 & 8.30pm Mat Wed 2.45pm PLUS EXTRA XMAS MATINEES Dec 26, 28, 29. Jan 1 2 at 2.45pm CC (Bkg fee) 240 7200 (24 hrs) /741 9999 / 379 4444

LYRIC Shaftesbury Ave. 437 3686 Groups 930 6123 cc 01 379 4444 /741 9999/(bkg fee) 240 7200 Sheila Hancock PRIN with SUSIE BLAKE BY Andrew Davies Directed by Richard Wilson "EXCELLENT ENTERTAINMENT" What's On. Mon-Fri 7.45. Sat 4.30 & 8.15 Wed Mat 3.00

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 01-741 2311 cc bkg fee 01 836 3464 Griff Rhys Jones Dinsdale Landen Hugh Lloyd in THARK by Ben Travers Vintage Farce Eves 7.45pm Mats Wed 2.30 Sat 4.00pm BUTTON MOON AND THE MOON MONSTERS 10.30am. Studio 01 741 8701 Tomor AMERICAN EAGLE Evgs 8.0 Ton't 7.0 Mat Sat 4.30.

MAYFAIR 629 3037 cc 379 4444 SOOTY'S XMAS SHOW Sorry Sold Out! Please book now for next Xmas at the Bloomsbury Theatre 387 9629 cc 379 4444

MERMAID 236 5568 cc 379 4444/741 9999 (no bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 "SUPERB FARCE" Time Out ROBIN KERMODE HILARY CROWSON and JILLY JOHNSON in FUNNY PECULIAR Mike Stott's outrageous comedy "Rip-Roaring Revival" S Mir Mon-Thur 8.00pm Fri & Sat 6.30 & 9.00pm. No Perfs Dec 25 (Daytime only) FRANK WINDSOR as Long John Silver in TREASURE ISLAND

NATIONAL THEATRE 01 928 2252 Grps 01 620 0741 24hr cc bkg fee: 240 7200 OLIVIER Ton't 7.15 Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 THE GOOD PERSON OF SICHUAN Brecht. Platform Performance Today 6pm ROALD DAHL ALL TKTS £2.50. LYTTELTON Ton't 7.30 THE BEAUX' STRATAGEM Farquhar Tomor 2.15 & 7.00 WHALE Holman. COTTESLOE Today 2.30 & 7.30. Tomor 7.30 THE VOYSEY INHERITANCE Barker Some seats now available.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 405 0072 CC 404 4079 OPEN ALL HOURS 379 4444. Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT MUSICAL CATS SEATS NOW AVAIL FOR EVE PERFS FEB & TUE MATS FROM JAN ONWARDS Group Bookings 01 930 6123 or 01 405 1567. NOW BKG TO 28TH APRIL 1990

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc (with bkg fee) 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999 Mon-Fri 7.30. Wed mat 2.30, Sat 4.00 & 7.45 THE LIAR by Pierre Corneille Directed by Jonathan Miller "BRILLIANTLY FUNNY" Times "A THOROUGH DELIGHT" D.Tel.

PALACE THEATRE 434 0909 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 Groups 494 1671 "THE SHOW OF ALL SHOWS" Newsweek LES MISERABLES THE MUSICAL SENSATION Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval "FIGHT TO GET A TICKET" LBC NOW BOOKING TO SEPT '90

PICCADILLY 867 1118 cc 867 1111/379 4444 741 9999 bkg fee KING THE MUSICAL Opens April 4 1990

PHOENIX THEATRE WC 2 "TREVOR NUNN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THE LONDON THEATRE" S. Times THE BAKER'S WIFE by Joseph Stein & Stephen Schwartz "FULL OF DELIGHT" Obs. "WONDERFULLY FUNNY" Ind. 01-836 2294/240 9661 or cc with bkg fee 01-379 4444/741 9999/240 7200. Groups 01-930 6123. Eves 7.30. Thu & Sat mat 2.30

PICCADILLY 867 1118 cc 867 1111/379 4444 741 9999 bkg fee DOROTHY TUTIN & PETER McENERY 'Superb in Sondheim's Smash' Ind SUSAN HAMPSHIRE ERIC FLYNN "Enchanting" "Excellent" Whats On Guardian LILA KEDROVA "Irresistible" Times A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC by STEPHEN SONDHEIM WINNER 1989 EVENING STANDARD SPECIAL AWARD "Haunting, hilarious and brilliant" S Times Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 NO PERF XMAS DAY EVE ONLY 26 DEC SEASON ENDS FEB 17

PLAYHOUSE BO & cc 839 4401 cc 240 7200 bkg fee Group Sales 930 6123 DONALD SINDEN as OSCAR WILDE Mon - Sat 8pm Prevs from Jan 10 Opens Jan 16

PLAYHOUSE BO & CC 01-839 4401 cc 240 7200 (bkg fee) in repertoire for a Christmas season WINNIE-THE-POOH by A A Milne Today 3 & 7 with ENID BLYTON'S NODDY Tomor 11 & 3. Fri & Sat 3 & 6. No perfs Dec 25.

PRINCE EDWARD 734 8951 First Call 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 (bkg fee) 379 4444 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 ELAINE PAIGE BERNARD CRIBBINS & JOHN BARROWMAN in ANYTHING GOES "THE HOTTEST SHOW IN TOWN" Daily Express "I LOVED EVERYTHING ABOUT IT" Daily Mail Choreographed by MICHAEL SMUIN Directed by JERRY ZAKS Eves 7.30 Mats Thur & Sat 2.30 No Perfs Xmas Day CAST ALBUM AVAILABLE ON FIRST NIGHT RECORDS NOW.

PRINCE OF WALES Box Office 01 839 5972 CC First Call 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 (bkg fee)/Open All Hours 379 6131 (bkg fee) ASPECTS OF LOVE "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S BEST" D.Tel Lyrics by DON BLACK & CHARLES HART Directed by TREVOR NUNN Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 Queue daily for returns. Strictly no admittance for latecomers NOW BOOKING APR - SEPT '90

QUEENS BO 734 1166/379 4444 /741 9999/240 7200 AT NO BKG FEE. GROUPS 930 6123 NIGEL HAWTHORNE JANE LAPOTAIRE "Masterly" Tms "Virtuoso" STms SHADOWLANDS "Packed with emotional bombshells" T.Out "Unbearably Moving" Std "A Joy to the End" DEx Eves 8.00 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888 CC No fees 01-836 3464 (24hr 7-day) 01-379 6219 Grs 01-831 2771. 01-240 7941 01 836 8889 PAUL DANIELS IT'S MAGIC Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 (26 Dec - Jan 6 incl. Twice daily 2.30 & 7.30) Child reductions avail. at most perfs. Limited Season Must End Feb 3

ST MARTIN'S 01-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0 38TH YEAR OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP

SHAFTESBURY Box Office & cc 379 5399 CC (bkg fee) 379 4444/240 7200/741 9999 Eves 8 Fri & Sat 5 & 8.15 "THE POWER PLAY OF THE YEAR" Std PETER EGAN in M. BUTTERFLY by David Henry Hwang Directed by John Dexter "QUITE BRILLIANT" SMir NOW BOOKING TO APR 1990

STRAND 836 2660/4143 CC 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 741 9999/240 7200 (bkg fees) "THIS REALLY WONDERFUL ACTOR RETURNING IN TRIUMPH" FT DENHOLM ELLIOTT in DAVID MAMET'S "DELICIOUS" FT COMEDY A LIFE IN THE THEATRE Directed by BILL BRYDEN "PERFORMANCES AS FUNNY AS YOU ARE LIKELY TO SEE IN A LIFETIME" D Mail. Tue-Sat 8 Mats Thu, Sat & Sun 4.30

STRATFORD UPON AVON. Box Office and CC (0789) 295623. Royal Shakespeare Company. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE: As You Like It Mat Tomor 1.30. Tomor, Fri, Sat 7.30. All's Well That Ends Well Tonight 7.30. SWAN THEATRE: Pericles Mat Tomor 1.30. Tomor, Fri, Sat 7.30. Meal/ Ticket/ Hotel package (0789) 414999.

VAUDEVILLE 836 9987 Grps 240 7941 cc 01 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999. "SHATTERING" Gdn "BRILLIANT" D.Mail JILL GASCOINE JENNIFER HILARY DEBORAH NORTON KEITH BAXTER BARNABY AND THE OLD BOYS "WONDERFULLY COMIC" T.O. Mon-Fri 7.45. Sat 8.15 Mats Thurs 2.30. Sat 4.30

VICTORIA PALACE 01-834 1317 CC 01-379 4444/240 7200/741 9999 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 "It's Buddy Brilliant" Sun "Sheer unadulterated fun ... I love this show" Sun Exp. The man, The Music, The Legend. BUDDY The Buddy Holly Story A NEW MUSICAL "Wonderful Stuff" Sun Tel. "I Loved It" Fin Times Mon-Thurs 8.00 Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30 EXTRA PERFS DEC 26 27 & JAN 4 AT 4.30 ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAYS 5.30 PERF

WHITEHALL S 867 1119 867 1111/379 4444/741 9999. Grps 867 1113. Eves 8 Thu mat 2.30 Saturday 5.30 & 8.30 "BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" Daily Mail The Theatre of Comedy Company William Gaunt Christopher Blake Jack Watling Judy Buxton Heather Wright Leslie Lawton Michael Cotterill Darren Nesbitt RUN FOR YOUR WIFE! LONDON'S LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY written and directed by RAY COONEY Over 2,700 side-splitting perfs "SHOULD RUN FOR LIFE" S.Exp

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE 01-867 1116 cc 01 867 1111/379 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 01-867 1113 ALBERT FINNEY "devastating inner power" D Mail JANET SUZMAN "quite magnificent" Ind SARA KESTELMAN "brilliant" FT DAVID de KEYSER "gleeful" Std CHRISTIEN ANHOLT "excellent" D Tel in ANOTHER TIME "absorbing, amusing and serious" Daily Telegraph "easily Ronald Harwood's best work since "The Dresser"" FT "Elijah Moshinsky's impeccable direction" S Tms Eves 8 Mats Wed 3 & Sat 4

WESTMINSTER 01-834 0283/4 cc 834 0048/379 4444 (no bkg fee) Two Narnian plays THE MAGICIAN'S NEPHEW Ton't - Sat 3 & 6.30 (no perf 25 Dec) From 16 Jan THE LION, THE WITCH & THE WARDROBE.

CIRCUSES

GERRY COTTLE'S ALL NEW CHRISTMAS CIRCUS In the comfort and warmth of WEMBLEY CENTRE Dec 23-Jan 14 Bk Now 900 1234

ART GALLERIES

THE LEFEVRE GALLERY 30 Bruton Street, London W.1. 01-493 2107. An Exhibition Of Early XXth Century British Art. 30 November - 20 December. Mon - Fri 10am - 5pm.

CINEMAS

CAMDEN PLAZA opp. Camden Tube 485 2443 WAYNE WANG'S EAT A BOWL OF TEA (12) Progs 2.10 4.20 6.35 8.50

CHELSEA CINEMA Kings Road SW3 351 3742 Ray McAnally in VENUS PETER (12) Progs 2.40 4.45 6.50 9.00.

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 499 3737 KENNETH BRANAGH as HENRY V (PG) Film at 2.30 5.45 8.30 "RAW, POPULIST, BRUTAL AND EXCITING" A Walker, Std.

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd 240 9661 KENNETH BRANAGH as HENRY V (PG) Film at 2.45 5.50 8.30 All seats bookable for all performances.

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 439 4805 ROSELYNE AND THE LIONS (12) Films at 2.30 5.45 8.30.

LUMIERE CINEMA St Martin's Lane WC2 379 3014/836 0691 JIM JARMUSCH'S MYSTERY TRAIN (15) Progs 1.40 4.00 6.25 8.50 Late Night Fri/Sat 11.15pm. SEATS BOOKABLE ACCESS/VISA.

RENOIR Brunswick Sq. WC1 (Russell Square Tube) 837 8402
1. TAVERNIER'S LIFE AND NOTHING BUT (PG) starring PHILIPPE NOIRET & SABINE AZEMA. Progs. 2.55 5.40 8.25.
2. HELEN MIRREN & MICHAEL GAMBON in THE COOK, THE THIEF, HIS WIFE & HER LOVER (18) directed by PETER GREENAWAY Progs 1.00 3.30 6.05 8.35.

TO PLACE YOUR ENTERTAINMENT ADVERTISEMENT IN THE TIMES
TRADE ADVERTISERS TEL: 01-481 1920
ADVERTISING FAX NO. 01-481 9313
TELEX 925088
PRIVATE ADVERTISERS TEL: 01-481 4000
MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

Genesis of a musical

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

● It was a good idea for the documentary film-maker David Wright to train his camera for a year on the genesis of the West End musical, *Miss Saigon*, though events off stage proved somewhat less dramatic than those on. At least that is how it seems from **The Heat Is On: The Making of Miss Saigon** (ITV, 10.35pm). The project was doomed to success from the start. No one broke a leg, no one was fired, there were no last-minute rewrites and the show was sold out weeks ahead, even before the critics had pronounced on it. It helped that *Miss Saigon* had the same producer (Cameron Mackintosh) and creative team (Claude-Michel Schönberg and Alain Boublil) as the everlasting *Les Misérables*. And much



In rehearsals: Lea Salonga and Jonathan Pryce in *Miss Saigon* (ITV, 10.35pm)

hard work and not a little talent went into the production, both amply represented by the energetic director, Nicholas Hytner, and carefully recorded in Wright's fly-on-the-wall style. It is also true that the search for a young unknown to play the Vietnamese heroine took the production team almost round the world, with endless auditions in anonymous rehearsal rooms. But precisely because the successful candidate, Lea Salonga, was unknown, her emergence proved somewhat less newsworthy than, say, that of Vivien Leigh to play Scarlett O'Hara. The film has no commentary and relies entirely on brief captions to explain what is going on. This detached approach has its merits, though I suspect they will be best appreciated by people who have seen the show. The rest of us could have done with more guidance. As it is, we are made to feel a little like interlopers at a private party.

● William Stukeley was an 18th century Renaissance man — doctor, vicar and pioneering archaeologist whose life's work was the study of ancient circles. With a combination of scholarly detachment and emotional enthusiasm he toured England on horseback conducting a one-man survey, illustrated with countless drawings, of the important stone sites. In **Chronicle: Romance in the Stones** (BBC2, 8.10pm) David Drew follows in Stukeley's footsteps, from the Rollright Stones in Oxfordshire to Castlerigg in Cumbria and the great Wiltshire sites of Avebury and Stonehenge. The film brings Stukeley up to date with the latest scientific evidence, while assessing the more questionable contributions of dowsing and witchcraft.

BBC 1

6.05 The Flintstones in *Sheriff for a Day* (r)
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Laurie Mayer. Includes news headlines every 15 minutes and regular sports bulletins, weather, regional news and travel; and a review of the morning newspapers by Paul Callan **8.55** Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by **Open Air.** A review of viewers' favourite television programmes of the 1980s
9.20 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject
10.00 News and weather followed by **Going for Gold** (r)
10.25 Children's BBC presented by Simon Parkin, begins with **Playbus** (r) **10.50 Henry's Cat** (r) **10.55 Five to Eleven.** Cyril Shaps with a reading
11.00 News and weather followed by **Open Air.** The team are joined by the television celebrities chosen by viewers in the *Radio Times/Open Air* Personality Awards of the Year
12.00 News and weather followed by **Daytime Live.** Judi Spiers and Alan Titchmarsh are joined by the personable chef Anton Mosimann **12.55** Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather
1.30 Neighbours. Jane is unable to hide her anger from Des when she sees him kissing Penny. (Ceefax)
1.50 Going for Gold. European general knowledge quiz **2.15 Knots Landing.** Joshua thinks he has found a way to return to Cathy
3.05 Primetime. Cleo Laine joins husband John Dankworth and his band; chef Colin Capon has some seasonal recipes to try out and Julia Clements illustrates how to make holly wreaths. David Jacobs reports on the advertising agency that is offering the elderly the use of their telephones over Christmas to call anywhere in the world free **3.40 Woody Woodpecker Double Bill.**
3.50 Animal Album with Derek Griffiths **4.05 Ewoks.** Cartoon series **4.20 Jackanory.** Christopher Timothy with part three of Martin Waddell's *The Falling Angel* **4.30 Hartbeat.** Tony Hart's guide to better picture making. (Ceefax)
5.00 Newsround **5.10 Not the End of the World.** Episode one of a two-part children's drama, set in Victorian Northumberland, about the reclusive daughter of a country doctor and her university student brother who both face a summer of frustration and emotional crisis. Starring Camilla Power and Altay Lawrence
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Andrew Harvey and Anna Ford. Weather
6.30 Newsroom South East
7.00 Wogan. Joining Terry tonight are the veteran American comedian Jerry Lewis and, from the cast of *Ever Decreasing Circles*, Peter Egan, Penelope Wilton, Stanley Lebore and Geraldine Newman. Roy Wood provides the music
7.30 Bergerac: Retirement Plan. Charlie Hungerford is on the Costa del Sol when he is pressured by a not very subtle pair of crooks who want to have a share in Charlie's business. Jim Bergerac is summoned to help but he soon finds himself in the middle of a gangland war (r). (Ceefax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather
9.30 The Visit: Home and Dry. Four years ago the story of Pat Kerr's off-duty work among the homeless children of Bangladesh caught the hearts of viewers. With the help of her fellow employees at British Airways, £200,000 was raised following the broadcast. The money was used to support an orphanage in Dhaka, but when the children were threatened with eviction, a new children's village was built, providing a home for 650 children. This return visit tells the remarkable story and meets the tireless woman behind the scheme. (Ceefax)
10.20 Film: Volunteers (1985) starring Tom Hanks and John Candy. Comedy about a Yale graduate who decides the only way he can escape his enormous gambling debts — and a pair of broken hips for non-payment — is to join the US Peace Corps but, posted in Thailand, he finds himself surrounded by a totally different type of danger. Directed by Nicholas Meyer. (Ceefax)
12.05am Weather

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am begins with News and Good Morning Britain presented by Richard Keys and, from **7.00**, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly. Includes news at **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** and **9.00. After Nine** has Claire Rayner with 1880s agony letters and the Cooking Canon, John Eley, with the recipe for fudge and chocolate mousse
9.25 Born Lucky. Word game **9.55 Thames News** and weather
10.00 He-Man and the Masters of the Universe (r) **10.25 Inspector Gadget** (r) **10.55** News headlines
11.00 This Morning at Christmas presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Includes a report from the magazine's adopted school, Grant High, Los Angeles; carols from Durham Cathedral; festive drinks suggestions; and cartoons. With national news, regional news and weather at **11.55**
12.10 Allsorts. Young children's entertainment **12.30 Home and Away.** Martin is surprised when Lance gives his entire win to a children's charity
1.00 News at One with John Suchet. Weather **1.20 Thames News** and weather **1.30 Santa Barbara.** Mason informs Augusta that Lionel is free to go
2.00 Mavis Catches Up With... Mavis Nicholson becomes re-acquainted with Quentin Crisp whom she first interviewed in 1975 on the day after the screening of his dramatized biography *The Naked Civil Servant* **2.30 Take the High Road.** Morag accepts Inverdarroch's apology, but Colin Begg is not so quick to forgive
3.00 Give Us a Clue. Celebrity mime game hosted by Michael Parkinson. **3.25 Thames News** and weather **3.30 Coronation Street** (r)
4.00 Josie Smith and the Wedding. Adventures of a young girl, starring Vicky Graham. Last in the series **4.05 The Wombles.** Bernard Cribbins with another tale about the denizens of Wimbledon Common (Oracle) **4.15 The Wisdom of the Gnomes 4.40 All Change.** The last episode of the comedy drama series about two families who exchange lifestyles in order to fulfil the conditions of a bizarre will
5.10 Home and Away (r)
5.40 News with Fiona Armstrong. Weather **5.55 Thames News** and weather
6.20 Thames Help. Jackie Spreckley with an appeal on behalf of Crisis at Christmas
6.30 Just for Laughs. A compilation of clips from British comedy films
7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel, disguised and armed with his big red book, springs a surprise on another unsuspecting worthy
7.30 Coronation Street. Gail's unhelpful attitude doesn't make Martin's decision making any easier. (Oracle)
8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. Joining Des tonight are Thelma Barlow and Peter Baldwin, alias *Coronation Street*'s Mavis and Derek Wilton; American singer Belinda Carlisle; spoon-bending Uri Geller and comedians Jimmy Tarbuck and Jim Barber
9.00 Boon: The Eyes of Texas. Ken's office is vandalized in this last in the present series, but Boon is more interested in his blossoming romance
10.00 News at Ten with Sandy Gall and Julia Somerville. Weather **10.30 Thames News** and weather
10.35 The Heat Is On — The Making of "Miss Saigon" (see Choice)
12.00 Film: Midnight Offerings (1981) starring Melissa Sue Anderson, Mary Beth McDonough. A made-for-television tale of the supernatural about a college girl who uses her powers of the occult on a fellow student when they both fall for the same young man. Directed by Rod Holcomb
1.45am America's Top Ten
2.15 News headlines followed by **Kojak: How Cruel the Frost, How Bright the Stars.** Although it is the season of good will, the killings go on and Kojak has to investigate (r)
3.10 Quiz Night. Inter pub and club general knowledge quiz, presented by Ross King
3.40 Skytrack. Motor racing and flying action from Brands Hatch
4.10 News headlines followed by **Three's Company.** American comedy series
4.40 Fifty Years On. Vintage newsclips
5.00 ITN Morning News with Anne Leuchars. Ends at **6.00**

BBC 2

8.00 News **8.15 Westminster** presented by Brian Curtois
9.00 Seventy Summers (r) **9.30 Now Get Out of That** (r)
10.00 Country by the Sea. Highlights of the Third Morecambe International Festival of Country Music (r)
10.30 Laurel and Hardy in *Going Bye Bye* (1934, b/w)
10.50 Film: The Tuttles of Tahiti (1942, b/w) starring Charles Laughton. A homesteader decides to gamble his family's entire savings on his prize fighting cock in a match against one owned by their neighbours. Directed by Charles Vidor.
12.20 Amazon Odyssey. A once-blind woman returns to what was once her home in the jungles of the Amazon **1.10 Holiday Outings.** Desmond Lynam looks for cross-channel bargains (r) **1.20 PC Pinkerton** (r) **1.25 Philomena the Cat** (r) **1.35 History on Your Doorstep.** Fred Housego visits Butleigh (r)
2.00 News and weather followed by **Living Legends.** Dick Whittington discussed by Magnus Magnusson (r) **2.35 Country File** (r)
3.00 News and weather followed by **The Metal Detective.** Why archaeologists are against metal detecting (r) **3.50 News,** regional news and weather
4.00 Catchword. Word game presented by Paul Coia
4.30 Talk of the 80s. Shyama Perera talks to A. Sivanandan, head of the Institute for Race Relations
5.00 One in Four. Magazine series for the deaf
5.30 Fight Cancer. Last in the series (r)
6.00 DEF II begins with **The Invisible Man,** starring David McCallum (r) **6.50 Reportage.** Young people's magazine
7.40 Wet Wet Wet in the Park. The pop group perform at Glasgow Green
8.10 Chronicle: Romance in the Stones — the Curious Journeys of William Stukeley (see Choice)
9.00 M*A*S*H. Klinger's motives are misinterpreted when he gives financial aid to the daughter of a Korean woman (r)
9.25 Blackeyes. The final episode of Dennis Potter's film drama. (Ceefax)
10.20 Building Sights. Deyan Sudjic admires Creek Vean in Cornwall (r)
10.30 Newsnight.
11.15 The Late Show: Art Is Not Enough. A report on the artists who are turning to political campaigning as their way of responding to Aids (r) **11.55** Weather
12.00 Talk of the 80s. See 4.30. Ends at **12.35am**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily
9.25 The Art of Landscape. Images of the natural world to a background of different kinds of music
12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Sue Cameron
12.30 Business Daily
1.00 Sesame Street
2.00 Crown and Shamrock. Series on the history of the Anglo-Irish (r)
2.30 The Life Revolution. The final part of a series looking at the implications of biotechnology (r) **3.30 Short Tall Story.** An animated parable about war **3.35 The Wreck of the Julie Plante.** A musical poem
3.40 The Oprah Winfrey Show with Bill Cosby
4.30 Fifteen-to-One
5.00 Helping Henry (r)
5.15 The Inventive Boy. Educational silent cartoon
5.30 Flight Over Spain. Zaragoza from the air. (Oracle)
6.00 A Different World. American college campus comedy
6.30 Paradise on Earth: Dreams of Innocence. Gauguin's search for a tropical paradise (r)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi (Oracle)
7.50 Party Political Comment from a Conservative Party politician. Followed by **Weather**
8.00 Brookside. Lonely Harry receives an unexpected phone call. (Oracle)
8.30 Dispatches. On the eve of the first anniversary of the Lockerbie disaster, a documentary about how the relatives of victims are still trying to identify those responsible for the outrage
9.15 Signals: Short Stories for Long Nights. A celebration of the art of storytelling, filmed by the fireside at Knebworth House
10.00 Film: Heart Beat (1979) starring Nick Nolte, Sissy Spacek and John Heard. Drama, set in 1947s San Francisco, about the relationship between an ex-jailbird, a poet and an art student. Directed by John Byrum.
12.00 Halfway to Paradise. Includes comedy from Phillip McGrade; music from Edinburgh's new country band, the Liberties; reggae-rapper Shelley Thunder and rock from the Jesus and Mary Chain. There's also a profile of Scotland's great panto dames, a homage to darts player Jocky Wilson and a behind-the-scenes look at pigeon fanciers
1.00am Best Of Star Test. Film director Ken Russell is grilled by the computer (r)
1.35 Johnny Staccato (b/w). Drama series about a New York jazz pianist-turned-detective. Starring John Cassavetes. Ends at **2.00**

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

5.00am Sky News **5.30** European Business Channel **6.00** DJ Kat Show **8.30** Panel Pot Pourri **10.00** The Sullivans **10.30** Sky By Day **11.30** A Problem Shared **12.00** Another World **12.55pm** General Hospital **1.50** As The World Turns **2.45** Loving **3.15** The Young Doctors **3.45** Dennis **4.00** Countdown **5.00** Sky Star Search **6.00** The New Price Is Right **6.30** Sale of the Century **7.00** Hey Dad **7.30** Mr Belvedere **8.00** Downtown **9.00** Falcon Crest **10.00** Jameson Tonight **11.00** Sky World News Tonight **11.30** The Big Valley **12.30am** Countdown

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
5.00am Sky News **5.30** Beyond 2000 **6.30** European Business Channel **10.30** BMTV Good Health **11.30** Our World **12.30pm** NBC Today **1.30** NBC Today **2.30** Question Time Live **3.15** Question Time Live **3.30** Parliament Live **4.30** Our World **5.00** Live at Five **6.30** Beyond 2000 **7.30** The Reporters **8.30** The Frank Bough Interview **9.30** Newsline **10.30** The Reporters **11.30** NBC Nightly News **12.30am** The FBI **1.30** Newsline **2.30** The Reporters **3.30** The FBI **4.30** Newsline

SKY MOVIES

From **8.00am** The Satellite Shop
2.00pm 15 and Getting Straight (1986): True story of teenage alcoholics and drug addicts in LA
4.00 The Magic Snowman: The adventures of a boy and his talking snowman
6.00 Pack of Lies (1987): A British intelligence agent observes a spy from a home in London's suburbia
7.40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 Tudawali (1987): The story of the first Aboriginal film star
10.00 Wild Geese II (1985): An American mercenary is hired to abduct Rudolf Hess (Laurence Olivier) from Spandau Prison
12.00 Porky's Revenge! (1985): The further adventures of the Fifties teenagers
1.30am The Hitchhiker: Tonight's episode is *Made for Each Other*
2.00 Tuff Turf (1985): The new kid in an inner-city Los Angeles high school (James Spader) has a tough time adjusting
4.00 Trouble in Mind (1985): An ex-cop returns to his old beat. Ends at **5.50am**

EUROSPORT

5.00am World Business Report **5.30** European Business Channel **6.00** DJ Kat Show **8.30** Menu **9.00** Eurosport — What a Week! **10.00** World Polo Championships **11.00** Taekwon-Do World Championships **12.00** Badminton **1.00pm** WWF Superstars of Wrestling '89 **2.00** Figure Skating **3.00** Ice Hockey: Czechoslovakia v USSR **6.00** Trans World Sport **7.00** Figure Skating **8.00** Indoor Handball Super Cup **9.00** Olympia International Showjumping **10.00** Film: The 1962 World Cup **12.00** Trans World Sport

MTV

5.30am Club MTV **6.00** Kristiane Backer **9.00** Rewind '86 **10.30** At the Movies **11.00** Remote Control **11.30** XPO **12.30pm** Kristiane Backer **1.00** Marcel Vanthilt **3.00** 3 from '86 **3.15** Marcel Vanthilt **5.00** Remote Control **5.30** Club MTV **6.00** Ray Cokes **8.00** At the Movies **8.30** US Top 20 **10.00** Rewind '87 **11.30** Maiken Wexo **1.00am** Night Videos

SCREENSPORT

7.00am Boxing **8.30** English Rugby League **10.00** Golf **12.00** Spain Spain Sport **12.15pm** Ice Hockey **2.15** US College Football **4.15** Spanish Soccer **6.00** US Professional Boxing **7.30** NFL Game of the Week **9.30** Boxing **11.00** Golf

LIFESTYLE

10.00am Search for Tomorrow **10.30** Keep Fit with Claire **10.35** Wok with Yan **11.00** Coffee Break **11.10** The Edge of Night **11.35** The Great American Gameshows **12.50pm** Buy Lines **12.55** Sally Jessy Raphael **1.50** Skyways **2.40** Search for Tomorrow **3.05** Tea Break **3.15** The Detectives **4.05** Jack Thompson Down Under **4.35** Lifestyle Plus **4.45** The Great American Gameshows

● Full information on satellite TV programmes is available in the weekly magazine, **TV Guide.**

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES: **6.30pm-7.00** Wales Today **10.20** Dennis O'Neill and Friends at Christmas **11.00** Film: Volunteers **12.40am-12.45** News and weather **SCOTLAND 10.50am-11.00** Dotaman **2.15-3.40** Scottish Question Time live from the House of Commons **10.20** Everyman: Mission to Kill **11.10** Film: Volunteers **12.55am** Weather **NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.35pm** Sportswide **5.40-6.00** Inside Ulster **6.30** Neighbours **6.55-7.00** Inside Ulster Update **ENGLAND: 6.30pm-7.00** Regional news magazines

ANGLIA As London except: **1.20pm** Anglia News **1.30-2.00** Sullivans **5.10-5.40** Mary **6.00** Home and Away **6.30-7.00** About Anglia **12.00** Tour of Duty **1.00am** Best and Marsh. The Perfect Match **1.30** Film: Airport 1975 **3.30** Willie Nelson **4.35-5.00** Farming Diary.

BORDER As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Room for Change **2.30-3.00** Cooking with Kurma **6.00-6.30** Lookaround Wednesday **12.00** Matlock **1.00am** Night Heat **1.55** Donahue **2.55** 60 Minutes **3.50** Night Beat **4.50-5.00** Jobfinder.

CENTRAL As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Gardening Time **5.10-5.40** Press Gang **6.00** Home and Away **6.25-7.00** News **12.00** Film: Assassination Bureau **2.10am** Hollywood Uncensored **3.35** Christmas Records **4.25-5.00** Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Coast to Coast People **6.30-7.00** Emmerdale **12.00** Jake and the Fat Man **1.00am** Sign of Four **2.45** Christmas Records **3.45** Wanted Dead or Alive **4.15** Miss McTaggart Won't Lie Down **4.50-5.00** Crunchbird.

GRAMPIAN As London except: **1.20pm** Grampian News **1.30-2.00** Room for Change **2.30-3.30** Scottish Parliamentary Question Time **5.55-6.30** North Tonight **12.00** Matlock **1.00am** Night Heat **1.55** Donahue **2.55** 60 Minutes **3.50** Night Beat **4.50-5.00** Jobfinder.

GRANADA As London except: **1.20pm** Granada Reports **1.30-2.00** Room for Change **5.55** Granada Reports **6.30-7.00** Fresh Fields **12.00** Matlock **1.00am** Night Heat **1.55** Donahue **2.55** 60 Minutes **3.50** Night Beat **4.45-5.00** Jobfinder.

HTV WEST As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Gardening Time **5.45-6.30** News **12.00** Garrison's Gorillas **1.00am** Film: World of Suzie Wong **3.30** Donahue **4.25** America's Top Ten **4.50-5.00** Jobfinder.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: **5.55-6.30pm** Wales at Six.

TSW As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Room for Change **3.27-4.00** Home and Away **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters **6.00-6.30** Today **12.00** Matlock **1.00am** Night Heat **2.00** Donahue **2.55** 60 Minutes **3.50** Night Beat **4.50-5.00** Jobfinder.

TVS As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Coast to Coast People **6.00** Coast to Coast **6.30-7.00** Emmerdale **12.00** Jake and the Fatman **1.00am** Film: Sign of Four **2.45** Christmas Records **3.45** Wanted Dead or Alive **4.15** Miss MacTaggart won't Lie Down **4.50-5.00** Crunchbird.

TYNE TEES As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Room for Change **6.00-6.30** Northern Life **9.00-10.00** Celebration '89 **10.35** Boon **11.35** The Heat is On **1.00am** Night Heat **1.55** Donahue **2.55** 60 Minutes **3.50** Night Beat **4.50-5.00** Jobfinder.

ULSTER As London except: **1.20pm** Newstime **1.30-2.00** Gardening Time **6.00-6.30** Six Tonight **12.00** Matlock **1.00am** Night Heat **1.55** Donahue **2.55** 60 Minutes **3.50** Night Beat **4.50-5.00** Jobfinder.

YORKSHIRE As London except: **1.20pm** News **1.30-2.00** Room for Change **6.00-6.30** Calendar **12.00** Film: Spring and Port Wine **1.55** Comedy Tonight **2.25** Love, American Style **2.30** Insight **3.00** Vietnam: The Ten Thousand Day War **3.30** Music Box 4.30-5.00 **Jobfinder.**

S4C Starts: **6.00am** C4 Daily **9.25** Sesame Street **10.25** Film: Dr Kildare's Victory **12.10pm** Pobol y Cwm **12.30** News **12.35** Ffalabalam **1.00** Streetwise **1.30** Business Daily **2.00** Images **2.30** Pantomime Dame **3.30** Fragile Earth **4.30** Fifteen to One **5.00** Mork and Mindy **5.30** Lone Ranger **6.00** News **6.15** Tocyn Drwmod **6.40** Pobol y Cwm **7.00** Flermio **7.30** Thorong **8.00** Hel Straeon **8.30** News **9.00** Film: Fahrenheit 451 **11.10** Crime Does Not Pay **11.30** Sikh Festival **12.00** Halfway to Paradise **1.00am** Best of Star Test **1.35** Johnny Staccato **2.00** Closedown.

RTE 1 Starts: **12.30pm** Check-up **1.00** News **1.30** Carson's Law **2.30** Disabled **3.00** Live at Three **4.00** Emmerdale Farm **4.30** Family at War **5.30** Country Practice **6.00** The Angelus **6.01** Six-One **7.00** No 1 **7.30** Wonder Years **8.00** Minder **9.00** News **9.30** Minder continued **10.00** This is your Life **10.25** First Edition **10.55** Equaliser **11.45** News, Closedown.

NETWORK 2 Starts: **2.30pm** Bosco **3.00** Amigo **3.15** Puppy **3.45** Skippy **4.10** Alias, the Jester **4.30** Happy Birthday **4.45** Danger Bay **5.15** Don's Lot **5.25** ALF **6.00** Jo-Maxi **6.30** Home and Away **7.00** Nuacht **7.08** Cursai **7.30** Coronation Street **8.00** Hamilton's Quest **8.30** Motor Show **9.00** Golden Girls **9.30** thirtysomething **10.30** News **10.50** Nighthawks **11.30** Closedown.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW**
News on the half-hour from **5.30am** until **8.30pm**, then at **10.00pm**
5.00am Jakki Brambles **6.30** Simon Mayo **9.30** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Gary Davies **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **5.30** Newsbeat **5.45** Mark Goodier **7.30** Adrian Juste **8.30** John Peel's Festive Fifty **10.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00-2.00am** Richard Skinner

RADIO 2

FM Stereo and **MW**
News on the hour
Headlines **5.30am, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30**
4.00am Steve Madden **5.30** Chris Stuart **7.30** Derek Jameson **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.00** Jimmy Young **1.05pm** David Jacobs **2.00** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Adrian Love **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Folk on 2 **8.30** The Yetties **9.00** Listen to the Christmas Band **10.00** A Tribute to Tom Mennard **10.15** Fine Arts Brass **10.30** Thanks for the Memory **11.00** Round Midnight **1.00am** Nightride **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

5.00am Morgenmagazin 5.35 News in German: Headlines in English and French 5.47 Sports News 5.50 Financial News 5.55 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Midi 7.00 World News 7.09 24 Hours: News Summary and Financial News 7.30 Development '89 8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Business Matters 8.30 Quote . . . Unquote 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News: Sports Roundup 9.45 Against the Grain 10.01 Omnibus 10.30 Jazz for the Asking 11.00 World News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 Country Style 11.30 Londres Midi 12.00 Newsreel 12.15pm Food Plants 12.25 The Farming World 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.09 24 Hours: News Summary and Financial News 1.30 Development '89 2.00 World News. Outlook 2.30 Off the Shelf: The Wind in the Willows 2.45 Business Matters 3.00 Newsreel 3.15 Poems by Post 3.30 You Asked For It 4.00 World News 4.09 News About Britain 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 World News 5.09 Commentary 5.15 The World Today 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 News Headlines in English 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7.54 Nachrichten 8.00 World News 8.09 The World Today 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Assignment 9.00 News Summary 9.01 Sports Roundup 9.15 Rock Salad 9.45 Recording of the Week 10.00 Newshour 11.00 World News 11.05 Commentary 11.10 Financial News 11.15 Good Books 11.30 Multitrack 2 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am You Asked For It 1.01 Outlook 1.25 Financial News 1.30 Waveguide 1.40 Book Choice 1.45 Society Today 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 Assignment 3.00 World News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Ned Sherrin's Counterpoint 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 The World Today 4.45 Nachrichten und Presseschau

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather and News Headlines
7.00 Morning Concert: Haydn (Symphony No 3 in G: L'Estro Armonico under Derek Solomons); Praetorius (Nun komm der Helden Heiland: Parley of Instruments under David Hill; Westminster Cathedral Choir)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Corelli (Concerto grosso, Op 6 No 8: English Concert under Trevor Pinnock); Respighi (Botticelli Pictures: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Neville Marriner); Strauss (Don Juan (Dresden State Orchestra under Rudolph Kempe)
8.30 News
8.35 Composers of the Week: Fauré — Choral and Orchestral Music. Pavane, Op 50 (Montreal SO under Charles Dutoit: Montreal SO Chorus); Ecce fidelis servus, Op 54; Tantum ergo, Op 55 (Groupe Vocal de France under John Alldis); Fantaisie, Op 111 (LPO under Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos); Salve Regina, Op 67 No 1 (Cécile Claude, soprano, François-Henri Houbart, organ); Ave maria, Op 67 No 2 (Cambridge Singers under John Rutter); Pelléas et Mélisande, Op 80 (Rotterdam PO under David Zinman; Netherlands Radio Chorus)
9.35 Telemann at the Table: Concentus Musicus, Vienna under Nikolaus Harnoncourt performs Musique de table, troisième production — Concerto in E flat for two horns and strings; Quartet in E minor, for flute, violin, cello and continuo; Conclusion in B flat for two oboes and strings
10.05 Haydn and Schumann: In the second of two programmes, the Lindsay String Quartet performs Haydn (Quartet in G minor, Op 74 No 3 "Rider"); Schumann (Quartet in A, Op 41 No 3)
11.00 Midweek Choice: A sequence of Christmas music, presented by Susan Sharpe. Pergolesi (Magnificat: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under David Willcocks; Choir of King's College, Cambridge); Messiaen (La Vierge et l'Enfant "La Nativité du Seigneur, No 1: Jennifer Bate, organ); Respighi (Laude per la natività del signore: Instrumental Ensemble under Michael Korn); Messiaen (Les Bergers; Desseins éternels "La Nativité du Seigneur, Nos 2 and 3); Tchaikovsky (Legend, Op 54 No 5 "Christ in His Garden": John McCormack, tenor, Gerald Moore, piano); Bach (Chorale "Cantata, Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring, BWV 147": Dinu Lipatti, piano); Adolphe Adam (Cantique de Noël: Enrico Caruso, tenor, Orchestra); Messiaen (Les Enfants de Dieu; Les Anges "La Nativité du Seigneur, Nos 5 and 6"); Edmund Pascha (Christmas Mass in F: Musica Bohemica under Jaroslav Krcek; Prague Madrigal Singers)
1.00pm News
1.05 Concert Hall: Live from All Saints Church, Margaret Street, London. The Choristers of St Paul's Cathedral; BBC Singers under John Poole perform Poulenc (Quatre motets pour le temps de Noël); Britten (A Boy Was Born, Op 3)
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.10 Vintage Years: Toscanini and the BBC SO perform Brahms (Tragic Overture); Beethoven (Symphony No 1 in C)
4.00 Choral Evensong
5.00 Winter in Switzerland: Traditional sounds and music, presented by John Thornley
5.30 Mainly for Pleasure
7.00 News
7.05 Third Ear on the Eighties: A discussion on cultural issues of the decade is chaired by Robert Hewison
7.30 A Christmas Tapestry: Seven centuries of Christmas music from the Royal Albert Hall, performed by the New London Orchestra under Andrew Parrott and Ronald Corp; London Choral Society; Finchley Children's Music Group; Taverner Choir and Taverner Players, incl **8.20** Interval Reading
8.20 Duplication: A monologue by Paula Kelly (r)
9.30 Schumann and Brahms: Oleg Kagan, violin, Natalia Gutman, cello, Eliso Virsaladze, piano, perform Schumann (Violin Sonata in A minor, Op 105); Brahms (Cello Sonata in E minor, Op 38)
10.15 Spectrum: Professor Roger Penrose discusses the difference between brains and computers. Presented by Colin Tudge
11.00 Composers of the Week: Jean Sibelius (r)
12.00 News **12.05am** Close

RADIO 4

LW (s) Stereo on **FM**
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, with Sue MacGregor and Brian Redhead, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament **8.57** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Midweek with Libby Purves (s)
10.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time (r)
10.30 Christmas Story: A week of festive tales. Holly, by Tom Wakefield. Read by Stephanie Cole
11.00 News; The Wednesday Feature: Transylvania — Dancing in the Dark. Recorded secretly in Romania, the programme reports on the country's rich village culture which is being squeezed out because of President Ceausescu's systemization plan. Written, presented and produced by Simon Broughton (r)
11.47 Fragile Paradise: Examining the delicate natural balance maintained on the islands of the Pacific Ocean, Andrew Mitchell finishes his journey at Easter Island
12.00 News; You and Yours with John Waite
12.25pm The Litmus Test: Scientific panel game chaired by Michael Scott (s) (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Woman's Hour: Presented by Jenni Murray. Includes an interview with actor Edward Fox; a discussion on where publishing is going; a feature on abuse over the telephone; and an item on Christmas shopping in New York
3.00 News; Star Quality: Play by Noël Coward. The last of three Coward short stories adapted by John Graham (r) (see Choice)
3.47 Time for Verse: Introduced by George Macbeth. Veteran poet George Barker reads poems in celebration of Eliot and Yeats, at the Jenneau Festival, King's Lynn
4.00 News
4.05 File on 4: Stuart Simon reports on major issues at home and abroad (r)
4.45 Kaleidoscope Extra: Arise, Rejoyce and Sing. Ian Russell listens to some original Christmas songs (s)
5.00 PM with Hugh Sykes and Frances Coverdale **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News; Financial Report
6.30 Screenplay: Movie panel game hosted by Iain Johnstone. With Dick Vosburgh, Bernard Cribbins, Victoria Mather and Robin Ray (s) (r)
7.00 News
7.05 The Archers
7.20 Visiting Lives: Biographers talk about their work. This week, Andrew Motion in conversation with Bevis Hillier (s) (r)
7.45 Turpin Hero: David Ashford investigates the life and legends of the famous highwayman Dick Turpin (see Choice)
8.15 Medicine Now with Geoff Watts (r)
8.45 The 1989 Reith Lectures: Beyond the Tunnel of History. Part 5: Toward the Light. French writer Jacques Darras on the cultural future of a shared Europe
9.15 Kaleidoscope: Jack May samples the delights of *Hamlet — The Panto* at the Zap Club, Brighton; a review of the Inigo Jones exhibition at the Royal Academy, London; and David Self previews Christmas television and radio programmes (s)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Guessing Game, and The Night the Bed Fell, by James Thurber (s)
11.00 Carry On Up The 50s: Part 9: Under the Counter Something Stirs. Harry Thompson presents a view of the oddball side of British life during the Fifties with the help of the BBC Sound Archives
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.30am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast
FM as **LW** except:
11.00am-12.00 For Schools
1.55pm Listening Corner (s)
5.50-5.55 PM (continued)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m 1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. (London area FM-104.8) Radio 2: 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. Greater London Radio: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648kHz/463m.

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

● Myth demolition robs **Turpin Hero** (Radio 4, 7.45pm) of much of what could have been pre-Christmas colourfulness, and very young listeners, already disillusioned about Santa Claus, should be discouraged from tuning in to it. They will, otherwise, be told that the highwayman never made his famous one-day ride to York, that he never possessed a horse called Black Bess (though he did steal a mare called White Stockings), and that he was taken to the gallows for horse-stealing (though it was for shooting his landlord's cockerel in a fit of rage that he ended up behind bars). More mature listeners, particularly those with a literary bent, will be interested to learn that it was the novelist Harrison Ainsworth, when he wrote *Rookwood*, who turned Dick Turpin into a Robin Hood-style folk hero, with a pistol in each hand and Black Bess's bridle clenched between his teeth. Scarcely your conventionally romantic hero, though. Ainsworth gave Turpin bushy red whiskers, plus a tendency to baldness.



Jean Kent: plays a theatrical idol of today (Radio 4, 3.00pm)

● Also recommended: Jean Kent, movie idol of yesteryear, playing a theatrical idol of today in John Graham's adaptation of Noël Coward's short story **Star Quality** (Radio 4, 3.00pm).

Aquascutum SALE

For Men and Women
Starts Friday Dec. 22nd
Open until 7pm Saturday until 5pm

Examples for Men

	Original Price	Sale Price
Classic Raincoats	£185	£125
Trench Coats	£249	£175
Wool Coats	£265	£199
Cashmere Coats	£990	£695
Suits	£249	£175
Sports Jackets	£175	£125
Shirts	£ 45	£ 25

Examples for Women

Trench Coats	£279	£189
Reversible Raincoats	£395	£259
Wool Coats	£395	£195
Car Coats	£295	£189
Wool Suits	£325	£225
Wool Skirts	£129	£ 79
Lambswool Knitwear	£ 99	£ 59

Generous Reductions. Many at Half Price.
Limited Quantities. Personal Shoppers only.

Aquascutum

100 Regent Street, London W1. Tel: 01-734 6090.
31 London Street, Norwich NR2 1HU. Tel: (0603) 613189.
24 St. Anns Square, Manchester M2 7JB. Tel: (061) 834 5617.
44 Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1LE. Tel: (0272) 268249.

EC fish 'gain' leaves Scots unhappy

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

Scottish fishermen claimed last night that their fishing fleet could be halved next year as a result of a European Community agreement on catch quotas.

The agreement had been hailed earlier in the day by Mr John Gummer, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, as a victory for Britain.

Mr Bob Allan, chief executive of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, said: "The figures do not constitute more than about six months of real and viable fishing for our fleet. The Scottish industry faces a very bleak outlook."

Mr Alex Salmond, deputy leader of the Scottish National party, claimed the quotas would reduce Scotland's fishing to "a part-time industry". He said fishing communities would "neither forgive nor forget a Government which turns its back on them in this hour of crisis".

Mr Gummer was able to persuade the European Commission early yesterday to increase its original catch limit proposals.

"We have got to face the fact that we must match the needs of the industry today

Lifeblood drained 5

with the needs of the industry tomorrow", he said. "If we forced higher catch quotas for next year, we would have threatened the industry in the years to come."

The final agreement allocates 36,280 tonnes of North Sea haddock and 46,180 tonnes of cod to British fishermen. British quotas this year were 54,380 tonnes for haddock and 55,800 tonnes for cod.

Brussels proposed originally that all EC fishermen should be limited to a total allowable catch of of 43,000 tonnes of haddock and 97,000 tonnes of cod in 1990. Britain would have been hardest hit by these reductions, because it has the biggest share of EC fish quotas.

Mr Gummer said that these proposals were "far tougher" than was warranted by the scientific evidence collected by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, which had recommended a total allowable catch of 50,000 tonnes of haddock and 113,000 tonnes of cod.

After an all-night bargaining session, Señor Manuel Marin, the EC Fisheries Commissioner, agreed to raise the haddock catch limit to the level recommended by ICES and to increase the cod limit to 103,000 tonnes.

Pro-reunification fever grips Dresden



Herr Helmut Kohl addressing an ecstatic pro-reunification crowd of flag-waving East Germans yesterday at Dresden's Frauenkirche, which was destroyed in World War Two. The banners read: "Germans link hands, it is good for our land — Dresden greets the Chancellor" and "Germany, one Fatherland".

Continued from page 1

exercised in the context of other norms and principles of international law, with due regard for the special position of the two German states and their responsibility to assure all nations of Europe and the world that a threat of war will never again come from German soil."

Herr Kohl could barely struggle through the crowds gathered in Dresden to chant his name, and "Deutschland, Deutschland" and "Germany, one fatherland" as pro-reunification fever spread through the city.

He told the crowds: "We are one German people this Christmas — God bless our German fatherland."

Herr Hans Modrow, the East German Prime Minister, after three hours of talks with Herr Kohl about reunification and economic co-operation, announced that they had agreed to open the Brandenburg Gate to pedestrians as a symbol of seasonal goodwill.

A joint statement issued by the two heads of government agreed to pursue "co-operation and good neighbourliness".

In separate talks, the economic ministers of the two states agreed the first steps towards extensive economic and political co-operation and announced that a commission would be set up in January to attract West German investment to help the failing East German economy.

But differences on the question of East German sovereignty continued to dog the talks, with Herr Modrow telling a news conference that the existence of two German states was a guarantee of security in Europe in times of sudden change.

"I am aware of the impatience among some of my countrymen," he said. "But we serve no-one's interests, least of all those of the GDR (German Democratic Republic) by rushing from one crisis into another."

Herr Modrow told his visitor that all political prisoners in East Germany would be released as soon as possible, probably before Christmas, and that the rights of East Germans to freedom of speech and political association would be secured in the New Year in a redrafted Constitution.

In a wide-ranging speech to the crowds gathered before the ruins of the Frauenkirche, Herr Kohl thanked President Gorbachov for initiating reforms in the Eastern bloc.

Commons sketch

Looking east for divine inspiration

The population of the United Kingdom is estimated at 57,065,000. Of this multitude, the number who would have the right (were they so minded) to make a fuss about the forced repatriation of the Vietnamese boat-people is probably about 57,064,999. In other words, there is just one person in Britain with no such right: the shadow Foreign Secretary, Mr Gerald Kaufman.

It has not stopped him.

Mr Kaufman, you will remember, is trying to wreck the Government's plans to let in a number of Hong Kong Chinese — on the grounds that, whatever number Labour would admit if it had a policy (which it does not) it would be a different number.

Awestruck by the moral grandeur of such an argument, few have dared to enquire what Labour would do about the Vietnamese. One journalist did, however: and Mr Kaufman's answer was published in *The Independent*.

He said they would have to go somewhere else.

"The Philippines has been named, (or) Indonesia.

"No, no, no: it's not a question of dumping them ... it is a question of agreeing with a recipient country . . "

But not us! We do *not* agree to be a recipient country — or, rather, Mr Kaufman has enquired of himself as a future government whether he would agree, and regretfully replied to himself that he would not. So it will be "the Philippines or Indonesia".

True, they have not actually been asked as yet; but these are mere details. It is not as if Mrs Aquino had her hands full; or Indonesia were already busy occupying East Timor and persecuting Catholics.

And why should the Labour Party stop there? Couldn't "the Philippines or Indonesia" help to fill other gaps in Labour policy? It is not clear, for instance, how we are to generate electricity once the nuclear reactors are gone and the polluting coal-fired stations phased out. Perhaps we could import power from "the Philippines or Indonesia"?

And what will Labour do about the privatized industries? Wouldn't "the Philippines or Indonesia" take Telecom and British Gas off their hands? It will take a little longer to work out how those paragons of south-east Asian largesse can help with the EMS, trade union law, Trident, Nato membership, student funding, financing local government, Delors Stage II, rocketing NHS costs and public-sector pay ... but Mr Kaufman may still be at the ideas-stage, here, too.

Labour did not seem to envisage a Pacific Solution for Barlow-Clowes, when Mr Ridley announced the good news to its investors. It was the latest example of the Government's new policy of taking money from taxpayers and giving it to anyone who has been particularly greedy, foolish or unlucky, and makes enough of a fuss.

It started rather uncontroversially some weeks ago with an award to haemophiliacs with the HIV virus. That can not have been based on the principle that they may not live to see the settlement of a legal claim, as that is a common misfortune and hardly restricted to Aids sufferers. It cannot be because the illness is not their fault; nor is multiple sclerosis. So it must have been because somebody made a fuss.

Next came war-widows. *Boy*, did they make a fuss! Their award cannot have been based on the principle that whatever you give to those who qualify *after* a certain date, you must give equally to those who qualified *before* that date — or governments wouldn't dare review any benefit at all and could never have improved war pensions in 1973. So it must have been because somebody made a fuss.

And now Clowes. This magnificent award cannot be based on the principle that it is up to the Government to warn people off double-your-money advertisments in magazines, or there would be Whitehall bouncers outside every bingo-hall: so it must have been because somebody made a fuss ...

Of the 57,065,000 citizens mentioned earlier, I have offended one, and the Clowes Statement yesterday pleased about 10,000. That leaves 57,054,999.

They'll just have to make more of a fuss.

Matthew Parris

Modern Church English criticized as banal

Continued from page 1

inner city schools. It must frequently appear a thankless task."

The Prince welcomed the introduction of the National Curriculum to deal with complaints that young people leave school "unable to write grammatically, speak accurately, or express themselves clearly".

The Prince concluded: "Ours is the age of miraculous writing machines, but not of miraculous writing. Our banalities are no improvement on the past: merely an insult to it and a source of confusion in the present."

The winner of the £500 first prize of the award, sponsored jointly by the *Spectator* and the Prayer Book Society and marking the 500th anniversary of the birth of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, was Alison Munro-Smith, of West Somerset School, Minehead. Runners-up were Michelle McLean, of the Ballakernee High School, the Isle of Man, and Jonathan Miller of the Debenham High School, Suffolk.

The Rt Rev John Taylor, Bishop of St Albans, said he agreed with the Prince's view of the magnificence and beauty of Cranmer's language, but added: "There are two ways of worshipping God. One is to use a language from the past which is elevated, antiquarian and literary. The other is to use language that people understand and speak, and to raise that to higher levels which lead people from where they actually are towards God."

Mr Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "We welcome the Prince's outspoken support for teachers.

"This is just the old story. We had all that in the 70s when we were working on it. It does not stand up to analysis. You cannot judge liturgy by linguistic standards. Language is one aspect only. You have to look at more than 2,000 years of history and judge what is right."

● Lord Snowdon joined the Prince of Wales last night in slamming the country's architects. In a speech at the award ceremony for his honorary Doctor of Laws degree at Bath University, he criticized architects who had made mistakes in the Georgian city.

Royal sympathy and patronage is something the education service has coveted."

Dr Ronald Jasper, who was chairman of the Liturgical Commission which prepared the *Alternative Service Book*, was unimpressed by the Prince's attack.

The Prince on Hamlet's soliloquy

Shakespeare's version:

To be, or not to be: that is the question:
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,
And by opposing end them? To die: to sleep;
No more; and, by a sleep to say we end
The heartache and the thousand
natural shocks
That flesh is heir to, 'tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wish'd. To die, to sleep;
To sleep: perchance to dream: aye,
there's the rub;
For in that sleep of death what dreams
may come
When we have shuffled off this mortal coil,
Must give us pause.

The Prince of Wales's version:

"Well, frankly, the problem as I see it at this moment in time is whether I should just lie down under all this hassle and let them walk all over me, or whether I should just say OK, I get the message, and do myself in. I mean, let's face it, I'm in a no-win situation, and quite honestly, I'm so stuffed up to here with the whole stupid mess that I can tell you I've just got a good mind to take the easy way out. That's the bottom line. The only problem is, what happens if I find, when I've bumped myself off, there's some kind of ... ah, you know, all that mystical stuff about when you die, you might find you're still — know what I mean?"

Passport plan backed

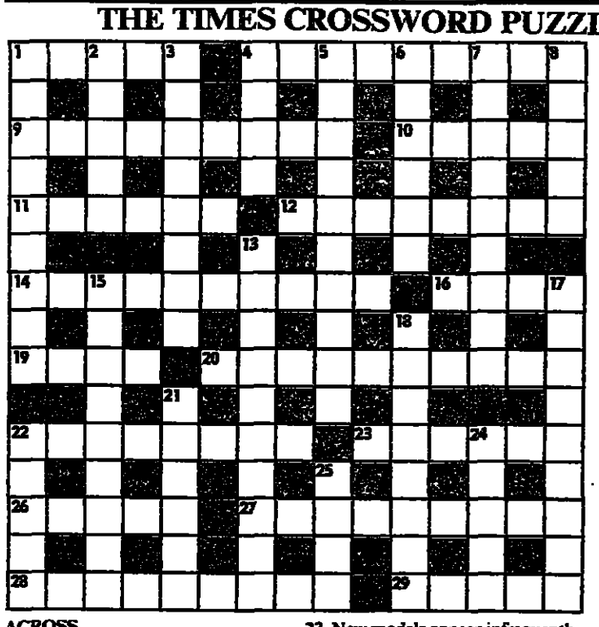
Continued from page 1

The Cabinet meeting, brought forward from tomorrow to give full authority to Mr Hurd's announcement today, was said to have been vigorous. It was denied there had been a dispute, although several ministers warned of strong feelings held by Tory MPs.

Legislation is widely expected to be introduced at about Easter. To assure backbenchers that there will be no sudden influx, Mr Hurd will emphasise that it will take some time before the scheme can come into operation.

People are likely to qualify on a points scheme, similar to that operated by Canada and Australia.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,170



ACROSS
1 Cushion falling out half way through (5).
4 Hat on the ball (4-5).
9 Exhausting the soup and the fish (9).
10 "Out of Africa" perfectly bound (5).
11 Wave, and what produces it (6).
12 Signal showing woman's fallen into Moon River (8).
14 Part of New York in trouble, losing money also (4,6).
16 Knock back a short drink in Italian city (4).
19 Many have not quite completed shift (4).
20 1 ac, in which the star-spangled banner might be seen (5,5).
22 Plan to get back one lost outside (8).
23 New models appear infrequently (6).
26 Chap who's pronounced penniless in China (5).
27 In agreement, people start to talk reconciliation (9).
28 Matter resolved by hospital department's therapy (9).
29 Creature going to the wall in France (5).

DOWN
1 Sweet little fairy dancing (9).
2 Accepted in the States, Liberal general (5).
3 Shot covered by statement (8).
4 Best parliamentarian (4).
5 Followed the Head, showing pertinacity (10).
6 Zodiacal sign responsible for Harold's death (6).
7 Father, upset, becoming boring and horrible (9).
8 To the east the land rises — that's strange! (5).
13 Wrestlers are familiar with this form of manly grief (6,4).
15 "Not again!" as the raven said (9).
17 Instrument in plane wrongly showing later time (9).
18 Bloomer depressed one of the Brontës (8).
21 Witness attending trial (6).
22 Toby's turned up short of one shoe (5).
24 Imagine 500 sheets of paper (5).
25 Pay money over at start of trading (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 18,169

A	L	A	R	M	I	N	G	■	B	A	R	R	E	D
■	E	■	E	■	C	■	R	■	R	■	E	■	E	■
S	A	P	P	H	O	■	E	M	E	R	I	T	U	S
■	K	■	R	■	N	■	A	■	V	■	■	R	■	E
N	I	H	I	L	I	S	T	■	I	N	G	E	A	R
■	N	■	E	■	C	■	W	■	A	■	■	A	■	T
A	G	A	Y	E	■	C	H	A	R	A	C	T	E	R
R	■	E	■	A	■	I	■	Y	■	A	■	■	■	A
G	O	L	D	S	M	I	T	H	■	G	R	A	F	T
E	■	U	■	A	■	E	■	C	■	E	■	I	■	■
N	U	M	B	E	R	■	H	A	L	F	T	O	N	E
T	■	B	■	A	■	E	■	A	■	A	■	E	■	■
I	M	A	G	I	N	E	R	■	R	A	K	I	S	H
N	■	G	■	T	■	O	■	E	■	E	■	S	■	■
A	V	O	U	C	H	■	N	O	T	A	R	I	E	S

The clue to 5 down in yesterday's puzzle should have read: See big bird wing o'er the earth freely (5,5,5).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

JUD
a. A reverse jibe in boating
b. Beetling coal
c. To tremble violently

SCALL
a. Scurvy
b. A drinking companion
c. To boil in oil

DUPION
a. A double silk cocoon
b. An electrically charged particle
c. A fall guy

BILIAN
a. The billionth fraction
b. An Australian hobo
c. The ironwood

Answers on page 20

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks
C. London (within N & S Circs.).731
M-ways/roads M4-M1 732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. ..733
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M23 734
M-ways/roads M23- M4 735
M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks
National motorways 737
West Country 738
Wales 739
Midlands 740
East Anglia 741
North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

The Times Computer Crosswords (7 volumes) are available from Akom Ltd for Amstrad, IBM, Atari ST, RM Nimbus, BBC and Spectrum systems. Special Christmas offer - £1 discount on all disc systems. Price range £9.95 - £18.95. Call Akom on 01-852 4575 for details.

WEATHER

All of the British Isles will have another wet and windy day. The rain could be continuous near to the south coast. It will be windy in the south too, with strong to gale force south-westerly winds, and in the far north there will be strong easterly winds. Temperatures will be near average in Scotland and Northern Ireland but above average in England, particularly in the south-east. Outlook: Staying unsettled.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	f	Majorca	16	64	s
Akrotiri	19	66	s	Malaga	17	63	s
Alex'dria	21	70	f	Malta	21	70	s
Algiers	19	66	f	Mell'rne	23	73	s
Amst'dm	7	45	r	Mexico C*	21	70	s
Athens	18	64	s	Miami*	29	84	s
Bahrain	18	64	s	Milan	12	54	c
Barbados*	-	-	-	Montreal*	-12	10	s
Barcelna	16	61	s	Moscow	2	36	c
Belgrade	19	66	s	Munich	9	48	f
Berlin	12	54	f	Nairobi	23	73	f
Bermuda*	21	70	f	Naples	18	66	c
Biarritz	16	61	f	N Delhi	19	66	s
Borde'x	14	57	f	N York*	-4	25	r
Brussels	6	43	c	Nice	18	64	s
Budapst	16	61	f	Oslo	4	39	s
B Aires*	25	77	f	Paris	10	50	f
Cairo	21	70	f	Peking	-4	25	sn
Cape Tn	21	70	f	Perth	28	82	s
C'blanca	20	68	s	Prague	9	48	c
Chicago*	-10	14	s	Reykjvk	-11	12	s
Ch'church	-	-	-	Rhodes	17	63	s
Cologne	11	52	c	Rio de J	34	93	s
Cyprus	8	46	c	Riyadh	15	59	s
Corfu	19	66	s	Rome	19	66	c
Dublin	3	37	s	Salzburg	8	46	r
Dubrovnik	15	59	c	S Frisco*	10	50	c
Faro	18	64	s	Santiago*	-	-	-
Florence	18	64	c	S Paulo*	27	81	c
Frankfurt	9	48	f	Seoul	9	48	s
Funchal	17	63	r	Singpor	29	84	f
Geneva	11	52	s	St'kholm	4	39	f
Gibraltar	18	64	s	Strasb'rg	11	52	c
Helsinki	3	37	r	Sydney	25	77	s
Hong K	18	64	c	Tangier	18	64	f
Innsbruck	7	45	r	Tel Aviv	17	63	s
Istanbul	14	57	s	Tenerife	22	72	s
Jeddah	30	86	c	Tokyo	7	45	s
Jo'burg*	25	77	f	Toronto*	-8	18	s
Karachi	-	-	-	Tunis	20	68	f
L Palmas	21	70	f	Valencia	16	61	f
Le Touet	5	41	r	Vanc'ver*	1	34	c
Lisbon	17	63	f	Venice	14	57	s
Locarno	11	52	c	Vienna	13	55	c
L Angels*	14	57	c	Warsaw	14	57	f
Luxembg	7	46	r	Wash'ton*	-3	27	s
Luxor	25	77	s	Wel'ton	-	-	-
Madrid	11	52	f	Zurich	9	48	f

* denotes Monday's figures

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Cromer	-	.04	09	48	rain
Lowestoft	-	.26	09	48	rain
Clacton	-	.21	09	48	rain
Margate	-	.15	10	50	rain
Folkestone	-	.27	10	50	rain
Eastbourne	-	.37	11	52	rain
Brighton	-	.37	11	52	rain
Littlehmptn	-	.24	11	52	rain
Sandown	-	.31	11	52	rain
Shanklin	-	.30	11	52	rain
Poole	0.1	.55	11	52	rain
Swanage	-	.48	11	52	shower
Exmouth	-	.50	11	52	rain
Teignmouth	-	.39	11	52	rain
Torquay	-	.57	11	52	rain
Penzance	-	1.0	11	52	rain
Newquay	1.3	.16	11	52	shower
Minehead	-	1.0	07	45	rain
B'pool Airpt	-	.21	08	43	cloudy
Morecambe	-	.05	06	43	dull
Douglas	-	-	05	41	cloudy
Aspatria	-	-	05	41	cloudy
Bristol (Cnt)	-	.71	07	45	rain
Buxton	-	.11	05	41	sleet
Leeds	-	-	05	41	cloudy
London	-	.24	11	52	rain
Manchester	-	.02	06	43	rain
Nottingham	-	.27	04	39	snow
Anglesey	-	-	06	43	cloudy
Cardiff (Cnt)	-	.46	06	41	rain
Colwyn Bay	-	.01	05	41	cloudy
Tenby	-	.67	06	43	rain
Aberdeen	5.1	-	05	41	sunny
Aviemore	0.9	-	03	37	sleet
Eskdalemuir	-	.03	02	36	cloudy
Kinloss	2.0	-	05	41	bright
Lerwick	-	.68	04	39	sleet
Prestwick	3.3	.02	06	43	sunny
Stornoway	-	.54	05	41	hail
Tiree	4.0	.07	06	43	shower
Wick	1.6	.28	06	43	shower
Belfast	0.4	.25	8	46	rain

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London 701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex 702
Dorset,Hants & IOW 703
Devon & Cornwall 704
Wilts,Glouc's,Avon,Soms 705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon 706
Beds,Herts & Essex 707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs 708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent .709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs 710
Central Midlands 711
East Midlands 712
Lincs & Humberside 713
Dyfed & Powys 714
Gwynedd & Clwyd 715
N W England 716
W & S Yorks & Dales 717
N E England 718
Cumbria & Lake District 719
S W Scotland 720
W Central Scotland 721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders ..722
E Central Scotland 723
Grampian & E Highlands 724
N W Scotland 725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland ...726
N Ireland 727

Weathercall is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 08C (46F) min 6 pm to 6 am, 04C (39F). Humidity: 6 pm, 81 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.04 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.7 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,006 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Guernsey Airport, 13C (56F), lowest day max: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway; Belfast, 02C (36F); highest rainfall: Falmouth, Cornwall, 1.44 in; highest sunshine: Aberdeen, 5.1 hr.

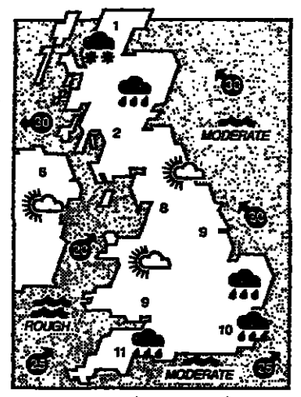
MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 05C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 0C (32F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.25 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.8 hr.

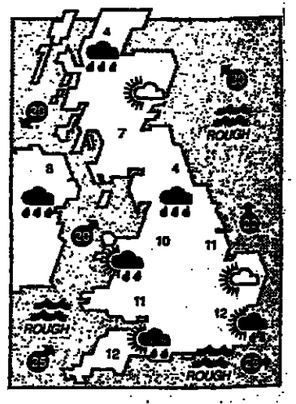
GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 01C (34F); min 6 pm to 6 am, -07C (19F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 4.6 hr.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 3.53 pm to 8.04 am
Bristol 4.03 pm to 8.13 am
Edinburgh 3.39 pm to 8.42 am
Manchester 3.51 pm to 8.23 am
Penzance 4.21 pm to 8.19 am

Sun rises: 8.03 am
Sun sets: 3.53 pm
Moon rises: 12.07 am
Moon sets: 11.47 am
New Moon December 28

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

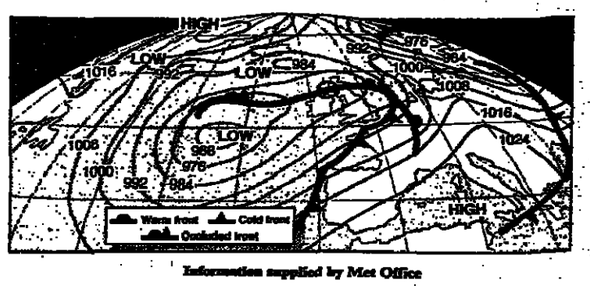
	C	F		C	F
Belfast	1	34s	Guernsey	9	48f
B'mingham	4	39c	Inverness	1	34s
Blackpool	3	37s	Jersey	9	48f
Bristol	7	45s	London	7	45c
Cardiff	8	46s	M'chester	3	37f
Edinburgh	2	36s	Newcastle	3	37s
Glasgow	-2	28s	N'ddesney	4	39s

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.48	6.0	7.28	6.0	Liverpool	4.21	7.6	4.42	7.8
Aberdeen	6.57	3.4	6.59	3.5	Lowestoft	2.11	2.3	3.37	2.0
Avonmouth	—	—	12.18	10.8	Margate	4.54	4.2	5.46	3.9
Belfast	4.31	2.9	4.45	3.2	Milford Haven	11.34	5.7	—	—
Cardiff	—	—	12.09	10.1	Newquay	10.38	5.7	11.06	5.4
Devonport	10.48	4.8	11.24	10.1	Oban	11.04	3.2	11.48	3.0
Dover	4.07	5.8	4.45	5.3	Penzance	10.01	4.8	10.42	4.5
Falmouth	10.16	4.8	10.54	4.3	Portland	11.31	1.7	—	—
Glasgow	6.08	4.1	5.51	4.6	Portsmouth	4.43	4.2	4.58	3.9
Harwich	4.37	3.5	5.19	3.4	Stornoway	4.12	5.3	4.39	4.9
Holyhead	3.45	4.4	3.58	4.6	Southampton	4.27	3.8	4.39	3.6
Hull	11.39	5.8	11.41	6.3	Swansea	11.34	7.7	—	—
Ilfracombe	11.15	7.4	11.46	7.0	Tees	9.22	4.3	9.38	4.6
King's Lynn	11.57	5.0	11.59	5.3	Weston-on-Nze	4.36	3.7	5.18	3.5
Leith	8.09	4.6	8.32	4.6					

Tide in metres: 1m=3.280ft. Times are GMT

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED. 1989. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN. Telephone 01-782 5000 and at 124 Portman Street, Kinsley Park, Glasgow G41 1EJ. Telephone 041 420 1000. Wednesday, December 20, 1989. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6015 (–0.0020)

W German mark
2.7730 (+0.0086)

Exchange index
86.6 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1852.5 (–12.0)

FT-SE 100
2342.1 (–16.4)

USM (Datastream)
151.38 (–0.28)

Market report, page 24

SE clears broker

Smith New Court, the broker, has been cleared by the Stock Exchange's disciplinary committee of suggestions that the firm failed to confirm to good market practice in dealings it conducted for Ivory & Sime, the Scottish fund manager, last December.

Greenall up

Greenall Whitley, the De Vere hotel and pub group, made pre-tax profits of £52 million (£47.1 million) on a turnover of £496.9 million (£455 million) in the year ended September. A final dividend of 5.4p makes 8.7p (7.25p) for the year.

Tempus, page 24

Maxwell plan

Mr Robert Maxwell yesterday made an approach to Monotype which the printing group said may lead to a full takeover bid.

STOCK MARKETS

New York:	
Dow Jones	2702.22 (+4.69)*
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	38439.10 (–147.08)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2879.42 (–20.79)
Amsterdam:	
CBS Tendency	181.6 (–1.2)
Sydney: AO	1632.4 (+3.2)
Frankfurt: DAX	1847.50 (+12.93)
Brussels:	
General	6363.08 (–36.21)
Paris: CAC	538.7 (–2.9)
Zurich: SKA Gen	607.6 (+2.3)
London:	
FT–A All-Share	1168.64 (–7.31)
FT–"500"	1273.16 (–7.78)
FT. Gold Mines	311.3 (–3.9)
FT. Fixed Interest	92.33 (+0.05)
FT. Govt Secs	84.16 (+0.12)

Recent Issues Page 24
Closing prices Page 27

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Lookers	120p (+10p)
Saga Group	292½p (+66p)
British Land	382p (+9p)
Davies & Newman	750p (+15p)
Forminster	345p (+15p)
Gresham House	355p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Power Corp	185p (–25p)
W Runciman	460p (–25p)
Glaxo	777½p (–16p)
Saatchi	249p (–14p)
Borland	657½p (–23p)
Thomson Corp	880p (–20p)
Western Motors	595p (–13p)
Carlton Comm	855p (–13p)
Nat West	335p (–11p)
SG Warburg	454p (–10p)
Cable & Wireless	517½p (–12p)
Racal Telecom	386½p (–11p)
Brit Aerospace	565½p (–11p)
Sock Shop	70p (–10p)
Closing prices	
Bargains	32382
SEAQ Volume	626.0m

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 15⁵/₁₆-15⁷/₁₆%
3-month eligible bills:14¹⁷/₃₂-14½%
US: Prime Rate 10½%
Federal Funds 8⅛%*
3-month Treasury Bills 7.61-7.60%*
30-year bonds 103²/₃₂-103⅛*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.6015	£: $1.6005*
£: DM2.7730	$: DM1.7373*
£: SwFr2.4935	$: SwFr1.5617*
£: FFr9.4729	$: FFr5.9300*
£: Yen230.13	$: Yen143.85*
£: Index:86.6.	$: Index:87.9
ECU £0.731083	SDR £0.814939
£: ECU1.367833	£: SDR1.227085

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $411.30 pm-$412.40
close $414.00-414.50 (£258.25-258.75)
New York:
Comex $413.80-414.30*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) ..... $19.50 bbl
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.09	1.95
Austria Sch	20.30	19.10
Belgium Fr	61.30	57.40
Canada $	1.94	1.83
Denmark Kr	11.23	10.53
Finland Mrk	6.91	6.51
France Fr	9.89	9.29
Germany Dm	2.895	2.725
Greece Dr	277	252
Hong Kong $	13.15	12.25
Ireland Pt	1.195	1.035
Italy Lire	2160	2030
Japan Yen	240.50	228.50
Netherlands Gld	3.25	3.07
Norway Kr	11.20	10.54
Portugal Esc	255.50	238.50
South Africa Rd	4.30	3.90
Spain Pta	186.75	174.75
Sweden Kr	10.50	9.90
Switzerland Fr	2.60	2.44
Turkey Lira	4170	3570
USA $	1.627	1.587
Yugoslavia Dnr	refer	180000

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 118.5 (November)

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Government to pay out despite disagreeing with Ombudsman

£150m for Clowes investors

By Jon Ashworth and Colin Narbrough

The Government has promised a £150 million Christmas cash bonanza to the 18,000 investors who suffered loss in the Barlow Clowes scandal.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said the Government had decided, in the "exceptional circumstances" of the case, to make substantial *ex gratia* payments to all investors who suffered loss. But the Government did not agree with the report on the affair by Sir Anthony Barrowclough, the Parliamentary Ombudsman, who said there had been "significant maladministration" by the Department of Trade and Industry. Mr Ridley said: "I want to make it quite clear that the Government does not accept the Parliamentary Commissioner's main findings; nor is the Government legally liable."

The overwhelming majority of investors — those who placed less than £50,000 with the Barlow Clowes empire — will receive 90 per cent of their money back, with interest on top. The 250 people who invested more than £50,000 will be paid on a sliding scale, down to a minimum of 60 per cent of their investment. In all cases, rolled-up interest based on building society rates will be included.

The Government has written to the investors concerned, outlining the proposals. Detailed terms will be sent in mid-January, and the first payments are due to be made in February. Although the Government has put aside £150 million to compensate investors, the final bill could be much lower. Once outstanding claims on third parties have been called in, the true cost to the Government could be closer to £50 million.

The Government's decision to make amends was greeted with joy and relief by the investors and solicitors who have waged an 18-month battle to win compensation. Mr David Pine, the partner in charge of the case at Alexander Tatham, the solicitor, said he was "absolutely delighted."

Mr Pine said: "This is a real triumph for financial justice. The Government has made a complete U-turn on the affair. This is due to a large extent to the pressure brought to bear by the Investors' Group, along with the accountants and solicitors involved." Mr Nigel Hamilton of Ernst & Young, joint receiver of Barlow Clowes International, the Gibraltar operation, and joint liquidator of Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers, also welcomed the decision to pay compensation. "The Government's decision is a real Christmas present for the many thousands of investors in the two funds and will considerably alleviate the hardship experienced by many."

Mr Hamilton said the firm would continue with the task of recovering the assets of the two funds. About £55 million to £65 million is still to be recovered.

Nearly 18,000 people invested about £190 million in the British and Gibraltar companies. Of these, 7,000 invested about £52 million in Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers, and about 11,000 put about £138 million in Barlow Clowes International. Almost all were small investors, investing an average of £10,500 with the two companies.

The Parliamentary Ombudsman's report concludes that were areas of "significant maladministration" by the DTI:

- Early licensing errors between 1975 and 1981 enabled the partnership to operate unlicensed.
- The DTI ought to have been aware in December 1984 that there was a separate Jersey partnership, nor was there any indication of officials being told of it during the licensing process in 1984-85.
- The attractions of granting a licence in April 1985 — as a shield against accusations that the DTI, knowing BC was unlicensed, had allowed the firm to carry on taking investors' money — were to cloud thinking within the DTI.
- The DTI was failed to appreciate that instructions to Spicer & Pegler, the auditor, to audit the partnership's client accounts would not have enabled any reassurance concerning the partnership's ability to make payments they had guaranteedd without eroding clients' capital.
- In licensing the partnership in 1987, there was a delay in taking a decision on BC's future following receipt of information from the Stock Exchange, and a failure to perceive the extra option for action opened up by a request from Touche Ross, the accountant, for more time. ". . . If the maladministration had not occurred, it is possible, but not certain, that losses to subsequent investors would have been averted."

Outhwaite names launch Lloyd's biggest lawsuit

By Gillian Bowditch

More than 800 Lloyd's names, including Miss Virginia Wade, the former tennis player, Mr Tony Jacklin, the golfer, and Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, are suing RHM Outhwaite, the underwriting agency, and their members' agent in what will be the biggest legal action ever to hit the Lloyd's insurance market.

The 814 names who have joined the Outhwaite 1982 Names Association and subscribed about £1 million to its litigation fund have issued writs against 81 firms of members' agents and Outhwaite, which is headed by Mr Dick Outhwaite, alleging negligence.

More than 1,600 names on the Outhwaite syndicate 317/661 in 1982 are estimated to have lost about £300 million. So far they have paid more than £100 million.

Mr Peter Nutting, chairman of the Names Association, says he expects the situation to get "dramatically worse" in the next year. One family alone has so far lost £900,000 and Mr Nutting says he knows of 50 Outhwaite names who are in drastic financial straits.

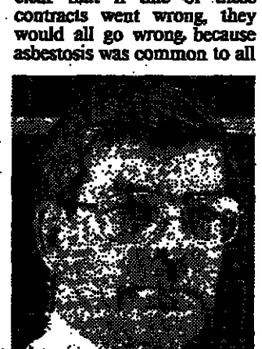
The names suing, who include Mr Ephraim Margulies, the Berisford International chairman, Mr Rupert Hambro, the banker, Mr John Ritblat, chairman of British Land, Lord Weidenfeld, the publisher, and the Earl of Inchcape, life president of the Inchcape company, have each paid £250 plus the equivalent of 4 per cent of their line with Outhwaite into the litigation fund in order to bring the court action.

Mr Nutting said it was sad that the names had had to sue but said they had been left with no alternative. "The chairman of Lloyd's, Mr Murray Lawrence and the authorities at Lloyd's have been totally uncompromising. We have been told to pay up and shut up."

Outhwaite, though its solicitors, said it is not suprised by the action. "We remain confident that the names' claims are very defendable and await with interest the service of the writ and points of claim when the latter are ready," it said.

Mr Nutting said the names' case is a very simple one. He alleged that Mr Outhwaite, in 1982 when he wrote the policies, was negligent. Mr Nutting said: "He insured 40 other insurers against their US liabilities relating to asbestosis and pollution. He was a marine underwriter.

"He wrote a huge book of this business and it was quite clear that if one of these contracts went wrong, they would all go wrong, because asbestosis was common to all of them. They were all the same risk. He wrote 18 unlimited liability policies and he had no reinsurance."



Outhwaite: agency head

Mr Nutting said that in 1980 a group of Lloyd's underwriters formed a working party on asbestosis to look into the problems of asbestos-related diseases. Ellborne Mitchell, the solicitors, were secretaries to the working party. "That was common knowledge in the market and was reported in Lloyd's List," says Mr Nutting. "But Mr Outhwaite, by his own admission in the Freshfields Report, said he had no special knowledge or understanding of asbestosis problems."

Outhwaite, in an attempt to cap its losses has settled on some of the policies.

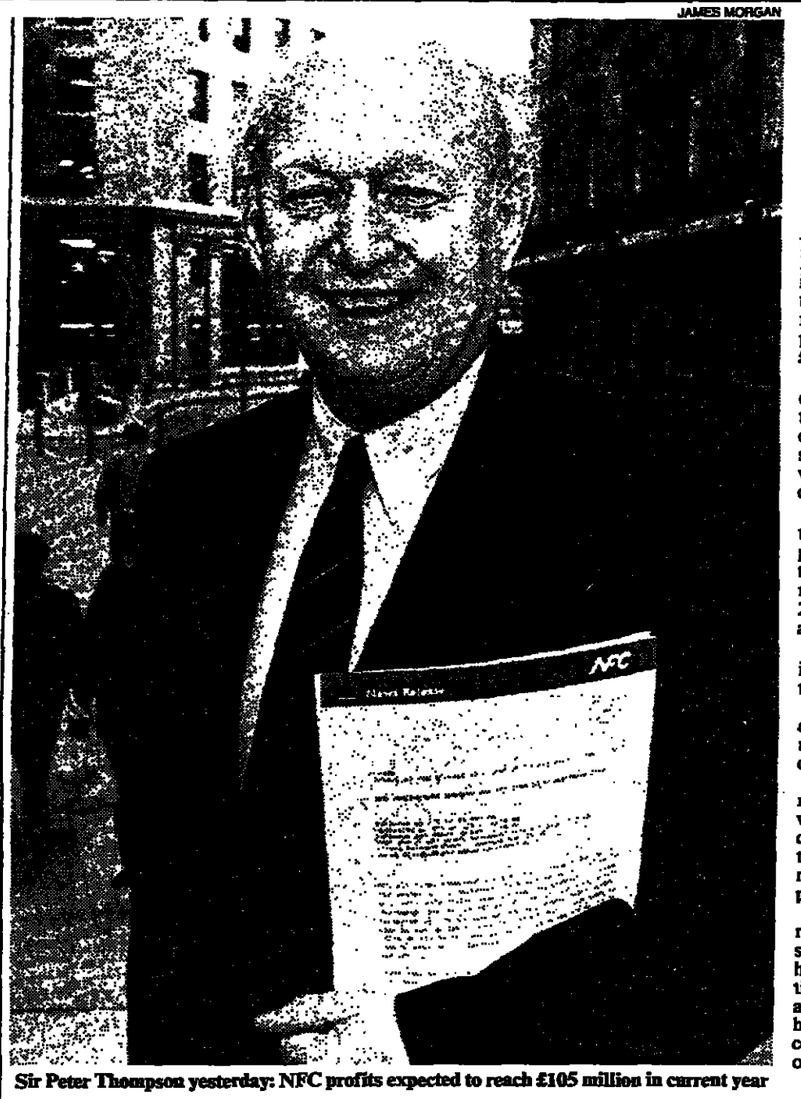
Murray Lawrence and Partners, the underwriting agency chaired by Mr Murray Lawrence, recently settled with Outhwaite.

Members of the Outhwaite syndicate 317/661 are paying $62 million (£39 million) over a six-year period to Murray Lawrence & Partners in return for ending all their liabilities under the orginial run-off policy.

Mr Nutting says that while he welcomes the decision by Outhwaite to cap its losses, he questions the price paid in the Murray Lawrence case and points out that there are still 22 contracts which have not been capped or renegotiated.

The names' case against Outhwaite and the members' agents is unlikely to come to court before 1991 and Mr Nutting says he is still hopeful there will be a settlement before then.

JAMES MORGAN



Sir Peter Thompson yesterday: NFC profits expected to reach £105 million in current year

NFC pays more as profits rise 34%

NFC, the former National Freight Consortium, reported its first full-year figures since the January stock market flotation, showing pre-tax profits 34 per cent higher at £90.2 million.

Sir Peter Thompson, the chairman, is predicting a further rise to £105 million in the current year. NFC's shares shed 1p on the profits, which were broadly in line with the company's indications.

Turnover grew 19 per cent to £1.49 billion and earnings per share climbed 29 per cent to 18.3p. Shareholders will receive a final dividend of 2.3p, lifting the total to 7.5p, an increase of 31 per cent.

There will be a special first interim dividend of 1.2p for the current year.

Mr Jack Mather, the chief executive, said that there were unhelpful conditions in most of the group's main markets.

The Pickfords travel business was hit by one of the worst years for overseas holiday bookings since 1974. The travel division reported a £3.5 million loss compared with a profit of £3.6 million last time.

BRS suffered weak truck-rental demand, offset by significant growth in contract hire. Home removal operations grew 23 per cent despite a sharp slowdown in British house sales. Almost 70 per cent of divisional profits arise overseas.

Comment, page 25

De Haan move boosts Saga

By Jeremy Andrews

Shares in Saga Group shot up by 66p to 293p on the news that the founding De Haan family are considering bidding 300p for the 37 per cent minority holding held by outside investors.

Saga, which arranges holidays for a quarter of a million elderly people each year, was founded by Mr Sidney De Haan in 1950 and brought to the market in 1978 for personal tax reasons. His son Roger, chairman since Mr De Haan retired five years ago, said that now the quotation offered only disadvantages. The offer would be pitched close to the shares' all-time high of 309p reached in March this year an compares to the flotation price of 35p.

"We would be exiting on a historic p/e of 19," Mr Roger De Haan said. "I think that is a generous price for the company, particularly by comparison with recent management buyouts. Anyone who has been in from the beginning would get a rise of almost 1,000 per cent in eleven years." Mr De Haan said that there would be a profits forecast contained in the offer document.

When reporting a 4 per cent decline in first half profits to £1.18 million in September, he referred to a setback in the US, which accounts for two-fifths of Saga's passengers.

The independent directors have advised shareholders to take no action.

Comment, page 25.

Setback for water shares

By Neil Bennett

Water shares have been hit by the first sustained price falls since coming to market just as private investors began receiving their interim certificates, allowing them to sell.

Prices of all ten companies fell by an average of 6½p, with Thames down 4½p to 143½p, and Severn Trent 9p to 134p.

Anglian dropped 13p to 148p, after Monday's news from Lyonnaise des Eaux that it has built a 9 per cent stake but has stopped buying. The package — one thousand shares (100 from each company) slid £65 to £1,443.

There is still a large unsatisfied demand from institutions, which have stayed underweight until more shares are available, and should help support prices once they start buying.

This announcement appears as a matter of record only *November 1989*

WILCOMATIC

Washing the Way Ahead!

£9,800,000
Senior Debt and Working Capital Facilities
to Fund a Management Buy-Out

Arranged by
National Westminster Bank PLC
Acquisition Finance Unit

Underwritten by
National Westminster Bank PLC

Equity Finance Arranged by
Phildrew Ventures

NatWest Acquisition Finance Unit

Management team locked in with golden key

Yorkshire TV opens £3m bonus fund

By Martin Waller

Yorkshire Television Holdings, the ITV contractor, plans to tuck away some £3 million of earned and future profits into a special fund aimed at keeping its current management beyond the expiry of the current franchise.

The scheme has not been formally unveiled to shareholders and will not be put before them for clearance. Mr Clive Leach, the Yorkshire managing director, who is not to benefit, said it formed part of the "standard staff bonus scheme."

Yorkshire was revealing pre-tax profits of £18.04 million, up from £15.64 million, in the year to end-September. It is paying a final dividend of 8p, making a total increased from 9.6p to 11.3p.

The scheme bears comparison with the much more controversial capital restructuring at LWT (Holdings) which was passed by shareholders after much dispute last month. In LWT's case management were to end up with 15 per cent of the company in a deal which is likely to make paper millionaires of a number of senior staff.

Other television contractors have also indicated their intention of putting in place a scheme which would lock in their management stars ahead of the upheavals of the next franchise round in 1992.

Yorkshire's plan is less ambitious than LWT's. It plans to squirrel-away 4 per cent of pre-tax profits every year into an escrow fund, which will go to those of its 18 senior managers who are still with the company in 1993. Their entitlement will be *pro rata* to their current salaries, but the share of any that depart in the interim will go back to the company.

Yorkshire's profits are not expected by analysis to see any extreme upturn over the four years of the scheme. If they stay at their current level the fund would stand at just short of £3 million by September 1992.

Mr Leach's exclusion from the scheme caused some surprise in the City. He commented: "I am on a different contract which I am quite happy with." His contract expires in 1994.

Profits in the latest financial year were hit by the costs of producing two mega-series set to reach British network TV screens over the coming months. Total cost to Yorkshire of both was £15 million.

Yorkshire's share of advertising revenue had fallen from 8.93 per cent to 8.51 per cent by November, merely a "temporary dip," said Mr Leach. Because Yorkshire TV is effectively locked into the earlier, less profitable contracts with advertisers until they can be renegotiated, it is still feeling the pinch, with its share of advertising revenue continuing to fall against the sector total.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Broadwell attracts bid as profits nearly treble

Broadwell Land, the commercial and residential property developer, which only came to the Unlisted Securities Market in July, last year, has received a bid approach.Its largest development is Plantation Wharf in Battersea, where it plans to build offices, flats, shops and leisure facilities.

In March, the company's assets was 98p per share. Its interim figures, show pre-tax profits all but trebling from £1.02 million to £3.01 million in the six months to September. Earnings per share more than doubled from 3.02p to 7.58p. The interim dividend is to go up by a quarter to 1.7p. The company said the economic climate for property was gloomy but it had a profitable development programme planned over the next seven years.

Dresdner goes home

Dresdner Bank, the second largest commercial bank in West Germany, plans to open an office in Dresden, the East German city where it was founded in 1872. The bank said: "The key to the success of economic restructuring in East Germany (lies) in a transfer of capital, technology and management know-how." Its headquarters have been in Frankfurt since 1957.

Setback for Westpool

Westpool Investment Trust reports a slip in pre-tax profits from £3.29 million to £2.75 million in the six months to end-September. Earnings per share rose from 2.32p to 2.55p and the interim dividend is maintained at 0.35p. Westpool's share of London Merchant Securities' final dividend is £1.31 million. This will be reflected in the full-year profits.

Anglia Chiltern move

Anglia Television Group, the ITV contractor, has doubled its Chiltern Radio holding to 18.13 per cent. Under IBA rules, as a local TV franchise-holder it cannot hold more than 20 per cent. The news sent shares in Chiltern, which has already this year fought off one unwanted bid, ahead 15p to 285p.

Chiltern came to the market only this month and has said it is concerned about hostile stakebuilding. Of the 550,000 shares being acquired by Anglia, 110,000 are being sold by Mr Patrick Sharman, one of its non-executive directors, the sale requiring approval by Anglia shareholders.

Emap to buy radio stakes

Emap, the publisher, has agreed to acquire the 4.6 per cent of Radio Broadland (Holdings) and the 17.3 per cent of Suffolk Group Radio currently held by Crown Communications for £1.4 million. The purchase is conditional on IBA approval and on the success of an offer to acquire Suffolk by Broadland. If the latter goes ahead Emap will have 19.2 per cent of the combined group.

N Sea gas find by Sovereign

Sovereign Oil and Gas, the oil and gas searcher, has announced a large gas find in the North Sea. The latest discovery was confirmed on block 49/9b by Mobil, which is the operator of the licence. The block is 7km west of the existing Markham field and the discovery well was drilled to a depth of 12,530 feet with tests showing that gas flowed at a stabilized flow rate of 29 million cu ft per day.

Peak for Braithwaite

The warm summer helped Braithwaite, the equipment rental group being built up by acquisition by Mr Andrew Fitton, aged 32, to make record first-half profits. Excellent demand for its Andrews air conditioners left pre-tax profits 44 per cent ahead at £2.62 million in the six months to September on turnover 36 per cent higher at £33.2 million.

Earnings per share were 39 per cent up at 9.6p and the interim dividend is to rise by two-fifths to 1.4p. The shares rose 4p to 299p on the figures. At one stage, Mr Fitton considered bidding for Eagle Trust.

STOCK MARKET

Water companies slip on the first bout of profit-taking

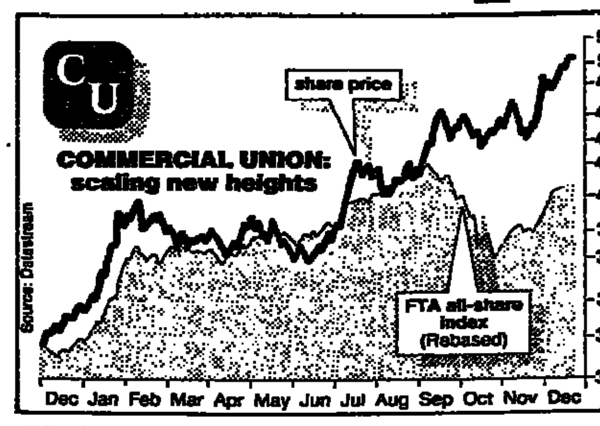
Shares in the newly-privatized water companies encountered the first serious profit-taking since their highly successful flotation last week.

The falls occurred as the allotment letters began dropping on the doormats of most private investors around the country. Many investors are certain to resent the long delay between the start of dealings and the letters arriving which may have prevented them from obtaining the best price for their shares.

Falls were seen in **Anglian**, 14½p to 146½p, **Northumbrian**, 6p to 155p, **North West**, 9½p to 136½p, **Severn Trent**, 9½p to 133½p, **Southern**, 7p to 144p, **South West**, 3p to 152p, **Thames**, 5½p to 142½p, **Welsh**, 11p to 141p, **Wessex**, 8p to 154p and **Yorkshire**, 3p to 154p. The water package, made up of 1,000 mixed shares, also tumbled £64 to £1,443.

The success of the water flotation exceeded even the most optimistic forecasts. Stake-building by Lyonnaise des Eaux and the buoyancy of the market generally has produced sizcable premiums for all 10 companies.

The rest of the equity market saw prices marked lower first thing on the back of a 42-point fall overnight on Wall Street. Attempts at a rally proved short-lived with New York opening lower. But prices closed above their worst



with the FT-SE 100 index reducing a 20-point decline to end 16.4 lower at 2,342.1. The FT index of 30 shares also lost 12.0 at 1,852.5.

Bed-and-breakfast operations to establish year-end tax losses were numerous and boosted turnover to 589 million shares.

The Anglo-Park property group was floated last week, via an introduction by Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, at 100p. The price has fallen to 93p, prompting Strauss to publish its first buy circular, pointing out its asset backing, high yield and low p/e. It also has little debt.

Government securities sported gains of £¼, taking their cue from a steadier pound and despite worries of a rise in the Japanese discount rate.

Among the leaders, bed-and-breakfast trading boosted turnover in **Smith & Nephew** to 13 million shares. The price closed unchanged at 130½p. **Asda** rose 1½p to 109p, supported by heavy trading on the traded options market. **Burmah** eased 2p to 688p following a presentation in the City.

Shares of **Woodchester Investments**, the financial services group, were suspended at 150p. Mr John Gunn's troubled **British & Commonwealth**, unchanged at 96p, is selling its near 30 per cent stake in the Irish leasing company to Credit Lyonnaise below the ruling market price.

UK Paper finished 10p lighter at 368p after Monday's counter-bid and subsequent raid on the shares by Fletcher Challenge, the New Zealand conglomerate, which says it now owns about 30 per cent. Metsa Serla, the Finnish company, has decided to drop its own bid and accept the higher offer of 375p a share, valuing UK Paper at almost £300 million.

Yorkshire Television held steady at 273p following full-year figures showing pre-tax profits 15 per cent up at £18.04 million.

Advertising revenue rose 5.4 per cent compared with a rise for the ITV network as a whole of 10.6 per cent.

Newcomer **Chiltern Radio** jumped a further 15p to 285p on the news that Anglia Television had bought an 18 per cent stake. The shares were floated at 210p.

Euro Disneyland rose 7p to 952p against the trend on vague talk of stake-building. The word is that Nestlé, the Swiss food group, may be building up a holding to use as a bargaining counter in some future trading agreement. Euro Disney is 51 per cent owned by Walt Disney.

Greenall Whitley, the brewer and hotels operator, fell 6p to 352p after its full-year figures, which showed pre-tax profits up from £47 million to £52 million, failed to live up to expectations.

NFC, the transport group, which was the subject of a management buyout a few years ago, firmed 1p to 261p as pre-tax profits for the year to September 30 accelerated from £67.1 million to £90.2 million.

Reuters, the international news agency and financial information group, was a casualty of the early mark-down, falling 24p to £10.29. The shares have been a firm market of late, squeezed higher by stock shortages on both sides of the Atlantic.

Speculative buying drove the insurance composites higher, although prices closed below their best levels of the day. **Guardian Royal Exchange** firmed another 2p to 257p, excited by persistent talk that Generali, the Italian insurance group, has built up a sizeable stake.

Commercial Union added 5p to 506p, still excited by talk of a possible bid. Rival **Sun Alliance** still holds a 13 per cent stake. A rise were also reported in **General Accident**, 5p to £11.88 while **Sun Alliance** recovered a 5p decline to close 2p better at 327p. Only the recent high-flyer **Royal Insurance** failed to make headway, losing 7p to 535p.

Michael Clark

Grinstead goes to Harmony Leisure

By Philip Pangalos

Sir Stanley Grinstead, former chairman of Grand Metropolitan, has been appointed a non-executive director of Harmony Leisure Group, the pubs, hotel and restaurant operator, along with Mr Bob Dawson, corporate development director of RKF Group. It is intended that Sir Stanley will take over as chairman.

News of the appointments accompanied half-year figures showing that Harmony is back on course with pre-tax profits of £134,000 in the 26 weeks to October 1, compared to last time's £258,000. This follows tighter financial controls after July's pre-tax loss of £128,000 for the year to end-March.

Mr Stanley Lever, the current chairman, said that despite the impact of continuing high interest rates on consumer spending, a satisfactory outcome was ensured for the year.

Operating profits improved from £251,000 to £274,000, on turnover up from £3.96 million to £4.85 million. Results do not show the benefit of recent hotel investments, which will contribute to group profits in the second half and be in full swing next year. Therefore, the earnings per share are reduced to 0.37p, against 0.72p last time. The company does not pay an interim dividend. However, it is anticipated that a final dividend will be declared. The shares held at 43p.

TEMPUS

Cool reception for Yorkshire TV

Yorkshire Television Holdings was not short of reasons why its full-year figures were, to put it mildly, underwhelming. Sales of no fewer than five hefty productions fell into the last month of the previous year; the company was locked into some unfortunate contracts with advertisers; and costs were inflated by two further mega-productions now in the can.

Pre-tax profits, therefore, came in 15 per cent higher at £18.04 million, given the benefit of Yorkshire's fierce cost-cutting campaign. Staff numbers fell by 14 per cent over the year, total staff costs fell by 6 per cent, and pre-tax profits per employee were up 27 per cent.

But advertising revenue was up just 5.4 per cent, against an increase for the entire network of almost twice that. In part this represents the slide to the South-east, now apparently arrested; but then some of the damage is being laid at the door of the now-restructured sales team. The unfavourable contracts continue to bite until they are renegotiated, and November's revenue market share for Yorkshire was down to 8.5 per cent, from 8.9 per cent a year ago.

Yorkshire will be helped by more cost-cutting in this financial year, against which it will pay a higher Exchequer levy, while the impact of the consumer slowdown is already being seen in advertising spending on white and brown goods. Profits before tax, therefore, are unlikely to



Driving seat: Andrew Thomas, Greenall's managing director, at the group's Belfry complex

be more than £19 million, leaving the company on its current low rating of about 7.6 times future earnings, at yesterday's unchanged share price of 273p. There seems little reason why the rating should improve.

Greenall Whitley

Greenall Whitley, the family-controlled brewery and hotels group, is used to serving customers with a smile.

It must, therefore, be gritting its teeth that yet again more money is going to bankers in the form of interest payments than to its shareholders in dividends. The payments are £19.9 million (up from £14.2 million) in interest, and £12.9 million (£11.1 million) in dividends.

The interest element could nudge forward again this year as Greenall continues with a net £70 million capital spend on development of its promising De Vere UK hotel interests, and moves in on opportunities which fall the way of its beer and pub businesses.

Meanwhile, the interest element held back last year's trading profit increase to a mere 4 per cent (up from £43.4 million to £45.1 million) on a turnover 9.2 per cent higher at £496.9 million.

At the pre-tax level, thanks largely to £7.71 million (£4.61 million) of property disposals, profit for the year ended September 29 moved 10.5 per cent ahead from £47.1 million to £52 million. Out of this the final dividend rises by 20 per cent to 5.4p, payable February 2, making 8.7p (7.25p) for the year.

Beer and public house profits, though 9 per cent up, were made against a backdrop of unexciting beer volumes, while the British hotel interests again proved their worth with a 31.4 per operating profit leap to £18 million. The American hotel interests were, however, once again a sorry letdown and the way back to better US profits through franchise argeements with national US hotel groups is under study.

The shares at 346p, down 12p, and on possible pre-tax profits of £60 million, trade on a prospective p/e ratio of 11.2. Hold.

UK Paper

Christmas should be festive for shareholders of UK Paper. Formalities apart, the 375p per share bid from Fletcher Challenge has won the day.

Meanwhile, Bowater shareholders, if not quite in mourning, will be wondering why their management (subsequently changed) parted with UK Paper so cheaply back in 1986.

Bowater put a price of just £38 million on the company when selling it to its management in what looks like the management buyout steal of the decade. Less than a year and a half later, UK Paper was floated with a price tag of £108 million. Fletcher Challenge's terms value the group at no less than £299 million.

The season's greetings to Mr Tom Wilding and the 70 former Bowater executives who took the plunge and backed the buyout with their own cash.

Aviva cash call for £15.3m

David Young
Energy Correspondent

Aviva Petroleum, the British independent oil company, is to raise £15.3 million by a rights issue of 87,125,000 new shares, on the basis of one for every two existing shares, at 18p each.

Ferris Investments, a company controlled by Mr Lawrence Hockey-Sweeney, chairman of Aviva, has undertaken to take up its entitlement to 26,125,000 new shares, and the corporate finance division of Smith New Court, the broker, has agreed to subscribe for 21,781,250. The balance has been underwritten by Smith New Court.

Aviva has recently tested a new well on its Colombian acreage, in which it has a 45 per cent interest. Preliminary results of drilling are expected to be available early next year.

The board is optimistic about the area's potential and estimates that the cost of development of the Toroyaco prospect is a minimum of $12 million (£7.6 million).

Aviva is negotiating to acquire the 55.4 per cent of Trustee Investments that it does not already own.

If successful, it will use part of the proceeds of the rights issue for the purchase. The balance will be used as general working capital.

● Mr Alasdair Locke, deputy chairman of Kelt Energy, is to retire at the end of the year. He will remain on the board as a non-executive director.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Alld Lyon (*484)	420	75	92	98	1	5	11
	460	40	62	67	5	12	22
	500	13	35	45	22	32	40
ASDA (*109)	110	9	15	19	6½	10	12
	120	4½	9	15	13	15	17
	130	2	6	11	22	23	24
Bass (*1038)	1000	77	117	142	10	20	27
	1050	38	82	115	29	40	45
	1100	17	52	88	62	67	70
Boots (*262)	260	16	29	35	7½	11	15
	280	6	17	24	17	19	25
	300	2½	10	-	35	35	-
Brit Air (*216)	180	41	49	51	1	3	4
	200	22	31	34	1½	5	8
	220	8	18	22	8	12	16
Brit Com (*99)	80	22	27	29	2	5	6
	90	13	20	23	5	8	12
	100	8	15	19	11	14	16
BP (*327)	280	52	57	62	1	3½	4
	300	33	41	48	1½	6	10
	330	9	20	26	8	14	20
Brit Steel (*132)	120	15	20	23½	2	2½	4½
	135	3½	8½	-	6	8	-
	145	1½	4½	-	14	15	-
C & W (*515)	460	69	90	105	3	9	14
	500	35	62	78	11	22	28
	550	10	35	50	40	46	52
Cons Gold (*1480)	1450	20	-	-	5	-	-
	1500	4	-	-	45	-	-
Com Union (*503)	420	90	98	108	3	5	6
	460	53	62	76	5	12	14
	500	22	32	47	13	24	28
Courtauld (*379)	330	55	66	74	2	4	9
	360	28	45	50	6	13	18
	390	11	25	32	20	24	32
GKN (*428)	360	78	85	93	1	6	9
	390	50	60	72	3	12	14
	420	28	38	55	10	23	25
Grand Met (*603)	500	113	120	140	1	4½	9
	550	65	78	100	3	15	19
	600	28	46	67	15	33	38
ICI (*1116)	1050	89	112	132	7	29	37
	1100	50	77	102	20	49	55
	1150	25	50	79	47	77	86
Jaguar (*846)	800	55	55	55	1	1	1
	850	1	1	1	3	3	3
	900	½	½	½	52	52	52
Kingfisher (*292)	280	23	37	40	6	9	16
	300	10	25	29	15	20	25
	330	2½	14	17	38	39	42
Ladbroke (*320)	275	58	-	-	1½	-	-
	300	31	45	50	3½	9	13
	325	13	-	-	11	-	-
Land Sec (*523)	460	75	82	100	1½	3	7
	500	38	60	70	6	11	17
	550	10	32	39	30	35	40
M & S (*195)	180	21	30	33	2	4	6
	200	6	16	20	8	10½	13
	220	1½	7	-	24	24	-
STC (*239)	260	5	12	21	22	27	31
	280	2½	8	14	40	41	46
	300	1	4	9	60	60	63
Sainsbury (*258)	240	26	36	41	3	4	5
	260	10	22	28	8	11	13
	280	3	12	15	23	25	28
Shell (*475)	420	68	77	87	1	6	10
	460	36	45	58	6	16	20
	500	10	23	35	25	37	42
Smid Beech (*576)	541	52	-	-	4	-	-
	600	14	36	53	27	32	37
	650	4	17	32	72	72	73
Storehse (*108)	100	13	19	23	2½	6	8
	110	6½	13	17	7	11	13
	120	3½	9	12	13	16	18
Trafalgar (*346)	317	44	-	-	2	-	-
	347	20	-	-	10	-	-
	377	8	-	-	30	-	-
Ultramar (*356)	300	68	75	88	1	5	6
	330	40	49	64	4	10	14
	360	16	31	45	13	21	24
Unilever (*689)	650	61	81	101¼	3½	12¼	17¼
	700	24¼	48½	69½	18	30¼	35¼
	750	6¼	26¼	45½	54½	60	63¾
Utd Bisc (*352)	330	36	45	53	3	6	9
	360	12	22	35	10	18	20
	390	4	11	21	35	38	39
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAA (*361)	330	65	77	82	2	6	9
	360	39	52	60	7	11	16
	390	18	35	42	19	23	26
BAT Ind (*822)	750	102	126	157	6	19	25
	800	62	92	117	25	35	42
	850	34	63	90	47	58	62
BTR (*465)	420	63	73	88	3	8	11
	460	32	45	60	13	21	23
	500	13	25	40	33	41	45
Brit Aero (*560)	500	85	92	107	8	20	26
	550	47	60	82	21	38	45
	600	21	37	57	48	65	70
Brit Tele (*289)	240	57	66	71	1	1	1½
	260	38	48½	54	1½	3	5
	280	21	32	38	4½	6½	8½
Cadbury (*342)	330	30	39	51	7	14	16
	360	14	23	35	23	28	30
	390	5	13	-	49	52	-
Guinness (*564)	550	130	143	160	2½	4	6
	600	85	98	120	5	11	14
	650	47	65	83	17	25	30
GEC (*222)	200	27	35	40	2	4	6
	220	11	20	26	8	10	13
	240	4	10½	16	20	21	24
Hanson (*220)	200	25	34	38	1½	3½	5½
	220	11	21	25	7½	10	12
	240	3½	11½	16	22	22	23

	Series	Calls Feb	Calls May	Calls Aug	Puts Feb	Puts May	Puts Aug
LASMO (*581)	460	135	150	160	1	4	7
	500	97	115	128	3	10	15
	550	57	80	95	13	22	28
P & O (*584)	550	54½	67½	82½	7½	19	22½
	600	23	38¼	54¼	28¼	41¼	45¾
	650	7¼	20½	-	69	76	-
Pilkington (*228)	200	37	46	-	2	3½	-
	220	21	31	35	5½	9	13
	240	9	20	23	15	18	22
Plessey (*269)	240	-	-	-	¼	-	-
	260	11	-	-	½	-	-
	280	¼	¼	-	-	-	-
Prudential (*223)	180	49	52	55	1½	3	3½
	200	30	33	39	3	6	9
	220	15	18	25	6	13	14
Racal (*239)	210	39	49	-	3	5½	-
	230	23	35	-	6	13	-
	250	12	-	-	16	-	-
RTZ (*569)	498	65	-	-	3	-	-
	542	45	-	-	12	-	-
	600	15	27	44	44	52	54
Scot & New (*356)	330	38	52	60	10	15	23
	360	21	33	42	23	32	35
	390	12	22	-	43	45	-
Tesco (*191)	160	36½	42	47	1	2½	3
	180	20½	28½	32½	3½	5½	7
	200	6½	14½	20½	12½	14½	15½
	Series	Jan	Mar	Jun	Jan	Mar	Jun
Abbey Nat (*171)	140	34	37	39	1	2	3
	160	14	20	22	3	6	8
	180	2	6½	10	11	14	16
	Series	Jan	Mar	May	Jan	Mar	May
Ferranti (*34)	35	4½	6	10	4	6	7
	40	3½	5½	7½	7½	9	10½
	45	1½	3½	5	10½	11½	13
Polly Peck (*398)	360	46½	60½	71	4	9½	13½
	390	24½	40½	52	12½	20½	24
	420	10½	26	36	30	37½	39
	Series	Dec	Feb	Apr	Dec	Feb	Apr
Reuters (*1024)	950	81½	-	-	1	-	-
	1000	30	-	-	2	-	-
	1050	2	-	-	25	-	-
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Amstrad (*43)	35	11	15	16	1	3	4½
	40	5½	10½	12½	1	4½	7
	45	2	7½	10	3	6½	8½
Barclays (*549)	480	93	108	110	1	5	8
	500	53	70	80	1	12	15
	550	5	33	47	7	28	33
Blue Circ (*231)	200	35	44	45	1	2½	6
	220	15	28	31	1½	6	14
	250	1	13	-	17	22	-
Brit Gas (*225)	180	47	49	58	¼	1	2
	200	27	30	39	½	4	6
	220	7	14½	25	1	8	10
Dixons (*132)	120	14	20	25	1	4½	6
	130	5	13	19	2	10	11
	140	1½	8	14	9	14	16
Glaxo (*777)	750	40	77	100	2	17	27
	775	20	60	82	3	27	35
	800	5	45	69	18	40	47
	850	2	23	-	67	72	-
Hawker (*692)	600	97	125	133	1	11	15
	650	47	82	92	2	20	27
	700	4	52	70	18	43	50
	750	1	32	47	68	73	85
Hillsdown (*263)	260	7	25	31	2	9	13
	280	1	13	20	17	19	22
	300	1	7	12	37	38	38
Lonrho (*290)	257	35	-	-	1	-	-
	283	10	-	-	2	-	-
	309	1½	-	-	21	-	-
Midland (*367)	300	70	78	78	1	4	5
	329	41	-	-	1	-	-
	360	10	29	37	4	22	27
R-Royce (*175)	160	17	25	27½	½	4	7½
	180	1	12	17	5½	11	14
	200	¼	5	9	25	25	27
Sears (*105)	100	6	11	14	1	3½	6
	110	¾	6	9	5½	8	11½
	120	¼	3½	5½	16	17	18
THF (*300)	280	23	37	40	1	5½	13
	300	4	22	28	2½	12	19
	330	1	9½	14	29	31	36
Thorn EMI (*774)	700	82	112	142	1	8	12
	750	32	72	104	2	21	30
	800	1	37	74	25	42	49
TSB (*124)	110	15	18	19	1	3	3
	120	5	9	14	1½	4	7
	130	1	5	7½	7	11	12
Vaal Reefs (*$112)	90	23	25	26	1	3½	7
	100	13	16	19	2	7	10
	110	4	11	13	2½	12	14
Wellcome (*763)	650	125	153	180	1	6	13
	700	75	113	140	1	17	30
	750	24	80	105	5	35	43

FT-SE INDEX (*2339)

	2250	2300	2350	2400	2450	2500
Calls						
Dec	110	63	29	5½	1	½
Jan	147	107	74	48	27	17
Feb	172	133	101	73	52	35
Mar	195	158	130	97	74	55
Jun	-	212	-	148	-	103
Puts						
Dec	4	9	23	60	105	150
Jan	25	37	58	83	117	158
Feb	37	49	70	95	126	165
Mar	46	59	78	105	130	165
Jun	-	76	-	115	-	180

December 19, 1989 Total: 22422 Calls 13650 Puts 8772 FT-SE: Calls 2326 Puts 4467
*Underlying security price.

Dear Newsagent, please deliver/save me a copy of The Times
WEEKDAYS ☐ SATURDAY ☐
NAME..
ADDRESS....................................

WALL STREET

Dow falls a further 26 points in early trading

New York (Reuter) — The Dow Jones industrial average was down by 26 points to 2,671.53 in early trading after falling by 42 on Monday. Declining issues outnumbered rising ones by two to one.

Heavy selling, especially in blue chips, pushed prices sharply lower. Shares sank on Monday and early yesterday on worries about the effect of a property slump on the banking and related industries.

● **Tokyo** — The Nikkei closed 147.08 down at 38,439.10.

● **Frankfurt** — The DAX index closed 12.93 higher at 1,647.50.

● **Hong Kong** — The Hang Seng index retreated 20.79 to 2,879.42, while the broader-based Hong Kong index fell 13.99 to 1,893.02 on a thin turnover of HK$757.94 million (£60.55 million).

● **Singapore** — The *Straits Times* industrial index fell 7.84 to 1,452.18.

● **Sydney** — The All-Ordinaries index finished 3.2 up at 1,632.4.

	Dec 18	Dec 15
AMR Cp	57%	60%
ASA	58%	57%
Aetna Life	56%	58%
Allied Signal	35%	35%
Alcoa	74%	74%
Amax Inc	22%	22%
AMR Hess	48%	49%
Am Brands	69%	71
Am Cynmd	53%	54
Am Ele Pwr	32%	32%
Amexs	31%	33%
Am Family	16%	17
Am Home	104%	107
Am Int Grp	98%	105%
Am Teleph	46	46%
Amoco	53%	54%
Anheuser B	37%	38%
Arch Dan	21%	21%
Armco Steel	9%	9%
Asarco Inc	29%	30%
Ashland Oil	37%	38%
Atl Richfld	110%	112%
Avon Prod	35%	36%
Bk Boston	18%	17%
Bank NY	38%	39%
Bankamer	25	26
Bkrs Tst NY	40%	42%
Baxter	24	24
Beth Steel	16%	16%
Boeing	57%	59
Boise Casc	41%	41%
Borden	33%	33%
Brist Myr	55%	56%
BP	62%	63%
Broad Inc	10%	11
Brunswick	13%	14%
Burl Nth	29%	30%
CBS	185	192%
CMS Engy	36%	37%
CPC Int	68%	68%
CSX Cp	35%	35%
Camp Soup	49%	49%
Can Pacific	21%	21%
Caterpillar	59%	60
Centrl SW	38%	38%
Champion	29%	30%
Chase Man	31%	33
Chem Bank	29	31%
Chevron	68	67%
Chrysler	18%	19%
Citicorp	26%	27%
Clark Eq	35%	36%
Coca Cola	79%	80%
Colgate	63%	64%
Columb Gas	50	51%
Cmb'tn Eng	39%	39%
Cmwlth Ed	40%	40%
Cons Edis	28%	28%
Consol Ng	49%	50
Cont Data	17%	17%
Corng Inc	41%	42%
Crane	23%	24%
Curtiss-W	58%	58%
Data Genl	12	12%
Deere Co	60	60%
Delta Airl	65%	67%
Detroit Ed	25%	25%
Digital Eq	82%	81%
Disney	126%	130
Dow Chem	68%	67%
Dresser Ind	44%	45%
Dupont	122%	124%
Duke Pwr	54%	55
East Kodak	40%	41%
Eaton Cp	56%	58
Emerson El	37%	39
Energy	22%	22%
Exxon	50%	50%
Farah Inc	5%	5%

	Dec 18	Dec 15
Fedders	13%	14
Fst Chicago	35%	36%
Fst Int Bncp	43	47%
Fst Penn C	14%	15
FT Wachva	38%	39%
Ford Motor	42%	44%
Fost Whlr	19%	20%
GTE Cp	68%	70%
Gen Cp	11%	11%
Gn Dynam	46%	45%
Gen Electric	62%	64%
Gen Inst	36%	36%
Gen Mills	72%	72%
Gen Motors	41%	42%
Gen Pub Ut	45%	45%
Genesco	7%	8
Georgia Pac	47%	49%
Gillette	46	47%
Goodrich	41%	43%
Goodyear	44%	45%
Grace Co	29%	30%
Grt Atl Pac	61%	62%
Greyhnd	30%	30%
Grumen	15%	16%
Heinz	35	35%
Hercules	40%	41%
Hewlett Pk	44%	44%
Hilton	89%	91%
Hitachi	105%	105%
Honda	25%	25%
Honeywell	80%	82%
ITT Cp	59%	61
INCO	27%	27%
Ing Rand Wl	46%	47
Inland Steel	32%	32%
IBM	93%	94%
Int Paper	53%	53%
Jhsn & Jhsn	56%	57%
K Mart	34%	35%
Kerr McGee	49	49%
Kimbrly Clrk	71%	73%
Knght Ridr	54%	54%
Kroger	14%	14%
LTV Cp	1%	1%
Litton	75	76%
Lockheed	38%	39
Lone Star	16%	17%
Man H'nver	31%	33%
Manville	9	9%
Mapco	38%	39%
Marriott	33%	34%
Mt Marriets	40%	40
Masco Cp	24%	25%
Mcdonalds	34	34%
McDonnell	60%	61%
Mead Cp	35%	35%
Merck	75%	76%
Minsta Mng	79%	80%
Mitsub Bk	22%	22%
Mobil	60%	61%
Monsanto	117	118
Montedison	15%	16
Morgan Jp	41%	41%
Motorola	56	57%
NCR	59%	60
NL Indstrs	25%	26%
Nat Med Ent	37%	38%
Nat Semi	6%	6%
Norfolk Sth	38%	39%
NYNEX	87%	89
Occid Petl	29%	29%
Ogden Cp	32%	32%
Olin Cp	58%	58
PPG Ind	38%	38%
Pac Enterp	49	48%
Pac Gas El	21%	21%
Pan Am	2%	2%
Paramt Cm	50%	50%
Penney JC	69%	70%

	Dec 18	Dec 15
Pennzoil	86%	86%
Pepsico	63%	64%
Pfizer	68%	66%
Phelps Dod	60%	60
Phil Morris	41%	42%
Philip Ptrl	25%	25%
Polaroid	42%	43%
Primerica	27%	28%
Proct Gamb	66%	68%
Pub SE Gr	28%	26%
Raytheon	66%	68%
Rynlds Metl	53	53%
Rockwell Int	23	22%
Royal Dutch	74	74%
Scecorp	40%	40%
S Fe Pac Cp	18%	19%
Sara Lee	62%	62%
Schlumb	46%	48%
Scott Paper	47	50%
Seagram	87%	89%
Sears Roeb	37%	38
Sec Pac	39%	40%
Shell Trans	45%	46
Sony Cp	59%	59%
SW Bell	59%	60%
Squibb	n.a	n.a
Sun Comp	41	41%
TDK	38%	39
TRW Inc	49%	49%
Teledyne	352	350
Tenneco	59%	60%
Texaco	56%	56%
Texas Inst	34%	35
Tex Util	36%	37
Textron	24%	24%
Timken	25%	26%
Travelers	36%	37%
UAL Cp	154	160
USG Cp	4%	4%
USX Cp	34%	34%
Unilever Plc	45%	45%
Un Carbide	23%	23%
Un Pac Cp	75%	76%
Unisys Cp	13%	14%
Unit Brand	16%	17%
Us West	76	77%
Utd Tech	52%	53%
Unocal	30	30%
Warn Lamb	111%	115%
Wells Far	67%	69%
Westg El	70%	72
Weyershr	26%	27%
Whirlpool	30%	31%
Whitman Cp	28%	29%
Whittaker	7%	7%
Woolworth	61%	62%
Xerox Cp	56%	58%
Zenith	12	12%

CANADIAN PRICES

	Dec 18	Dec 15
Agnco Eag	10%	10%
Alcan Alum	26%	26%
Can Pacific	25%	25%
Cominco	26%	27
Con Bathrst	n.a	n.a
Hawk S Can	25%	25
Hud Bay M	31	30%
Imasco	37%	37%
Imperial Oil	62%	62%
Inco	37%	31%
Royl Trstco	17%	18%
Seagram	101%	103
Shell Can	42	42%
Stelco	20%	20%
Thmsn N 'A'	16%	16%
Varity Cp	2.70	2.80
WCE	20	30%
Weston	42%	42%

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Air London (75p)	138
Anglo Park	90 -3
Autos Distinction	17½
Barts Hldgs (142p)	146
Biocure (42p)	42
Chiltern Radio (210p)	285 +15
Courtyard Leis (27p)	21
East Surrey Water	£14½
Euro Disneyland	952 +7
Euro Project (50p)	51
Fired Earth (130p)	133 +2
First Philip (50p)	44 -1
Grosvnr Dev (100p)	104 -1
Hartley Baird	60
Image Store (38p)	41
JF Philippines	837
Lon Merch Sec Dif	43
Malaysian Emerg	685
Micklegate Gp (75p)	73
Millicom Inc	£14⅛
Pendragon	79 +1
Prospect (10p)	11½ -½
Ramsden (Harry) (100p)	110 -2
Regal Hotels	156
Sage Gp New (130p)	147 +1
Sempernova (40p)	42
Siam Smlr Comp	£10½
Storm Group (38p)	36
Surrey Gp	13 -½
United Drug	134

See main listing for Water shares

RIGHTS ISSUES

Fisons N/P	46
Jeyes N/P	43
Surrey N/P	2½ -½
Wilkes (J) N/P	4 -1
Willaire N/P	3

(Issue price in brackets).

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● Stockwatch gives instant access to more than 10,000 share, unit trust and bond prices. The information you require is on the following telephone numbers:

● Stock market comment: general market 0898 121220; company news 0898 121221; active shares 0898 121225

● Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak, inc. VAT.

COMPANY BRIEFS

F&C SMALLER COS (Int)
Revenue: £2.03m (£1.69m)
EPS: 1.05p (0.83p)
Div: 0.45p (0.40p)

The net asset value rose by 9.3 per cent to 102.1p. Forecast total dividend increased by 11.5 per cent to 1.45p (1.3p) a share.

FAUPEL TRADING (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.73m (£0.84m)
EPS: 6.21p (7.6p)
Div: 1.85p

Turnover £8.32m (£6.23m). High base rates are dampening retail demand, so the company is having to work harder to increase sales.

WEST TRUST (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.44m
EPS: 0.77p (loss 0.09p)
Div: 0.25p (nil)

Last time, pre-tax loss was £0.03m. Indications are that year's results will show continuing progress, if no big deterioration in conditions.

TINSLEY ROBOR (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.62m (£0.89m)
EPS: 1.45p (2.55p)
Div: 0.75p (0.75p)

By combining the label companies, the company will achieve a 25 per cent reduction in work force and other overhead savings.

ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000
ADT	2,090
Abbey Nat	4,907
Allo-Lyons	442
Amstrad	1,979
ASDA	20,467
AB Foods	31
Argyll	1,458
BAA	1,034
BET	1,182
BTR	1,871
BAT	1,982
Barclays	1,815
Bass	963
Beazer	279
Berisfd Intl	501
BICC	543
Blue Arrow	151
Blue Circle	2,111
BOC	200
Boots	2,704
BPB	617
Br Aero	698
Br Airways	5,458
Br Comm	13,358
Br Gas	6,586
Br Land	1,845
Br Petrol	5,300
Br Steel	2,500
Br Telecm	2,813
Bunzl	4,555
Burmah	453
Burton	2,959
C&W	2,138
Cadbury	2,126
Coats	2,078

	Vol '000
CU	1,130
Cookson	1,049
Courtaulds	190
Delgety	420
Dixons	1,054
ECC	348
Enterprise	571
Ferranti	9,198
Fisons	2,851
FKI	7,138
Gen Acc	252
GEC	3,166
Glaxo	1,348
Globe Inv	420
Glynwed	1,063
Granada	295
Grand Met	1,144
GUS 'A'	233
GRE	3,169
GKN	1,279
Guinness	802
Hamm 'A'	2
Hanson	5,218
H & C	125
Hawker	273
Hillsdown	2,478
IMI	120
ICI	735
Inchcape	747
Jaguar	4
Kingfisher	199
Lasmo	611
Ladbroke	1,904
Land Sec	347
Laporte	83

	Vol '000
L&G	509
Lloyds	1,476
Lloyds Abb	1,676
Lonrho	1,283
Lucas	271
M&S	3,069
Maxwell Cm	226
MB Group	531
MEPC	227
Midland	1,118
Nat West	5,100
Next	17,692
Nth Food	215
P&O	943
Pearl	6
Pearson	153
Pilkington	2,431
Polly Peck	995
Prudential	3,694
Racal	7,588
Racal Tele	94
Rk Hovis	300
Rank	786
R&C	224
Redland	310
Reed	784
Reuters	759
RMC Gp	149
RTZ	913
R-Royce	2,680
Rothmn 'B'	110
Royal Bank	1,835
Royal Ins	2,832
Saatchi	4,138
Sainsbury	2,204

	Vol '000
Scot & N	705
Sears	6,352
Sedgwick	472
Shell	2,026
Siebe	780
Slough	482
Smith & N	13,905
SK Beech	2,138
Smith WH	159
Smiths Ind	133
STC	2,194
Stan Chart	2,983
Storehse	8,416
Sun Allnce	1,091
T & N	1,028
TI Group	810
Tarmac	1,478
Tate & Lyle	657
Taylor Wood	773
TSB	949
Tesco	1,656
Thorn EMI	327
Trafalgar	1,838
THF	1,066
Ultramar	1,553
Unigate	1,977
Unilever	2,131
United Bis	425
Utd News	1,148
Wellcome	1,598
Whitbrd	996
Williams	582
Wills Fab	185
Wimpey G	264

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
December 18	January 5	March 22	April 2

Call options were taken out on: 19/12/89 Micro Focus, Aviva, Ferranti, Eurotunnel Wts, Amstrad.
Put: Brunning.
Put & Call: Ferranti.

Fletcher Challenge takes UK Paper stake over 50%

By Melinda Wittstock

Fletcher Challenge, New Zealand's largest company, has emerged with more than 50 per cent of UK Paper after its £299 million agreed bid announced on Monday forced rival bidder Metsä-Serla out of the race yesterday.

Metsä-Serla, the Finnish forest products group which had originally won UK Paper's support when it launched a £263 million bid last month, refused to increase its offer, opting instead to sell its 4.5 per cent stake to Fletcher Challenge.

Despite widespread City sentiment that UK Paper is worth at least £4 a share given its valuable land and machinery assets, Metsä-Serla said Fletcher's 375p a share offer represented "a full price."

Fletcher, which had insisted on irrevocable acceptances from the UK Paper executive as a precondition of its offer, moved fast to pick up 41.85 per cent in the market — including the Metsä-Serla 4.5 per cent stake.

It also won acceptances totalling 12.5 per cent so far, including the 7.5 per cent held by UK Paper executives. Of the 7 per cent held by senior and middle management, 5 per cent has been pledged so far. UK Paper employees, with 10 per cent, are expected to follow suit soon.

"We're a bit surprised it has happened so quickly, but now we can go back to New Zealand to enjoy a relaxing Christmas after a busy year," said Mr Hugh Fletcher, the Fletcher Challenge chief executive.

Through the UK Paper acquisition, Fletcher, the second largest newsprint producer in the world, will gain a much-desired entrée into the European paper market and a new product line at the high-quality end of the paper market.

"Our aspirations to expand in Europe before 1992 are equally matched by UK Paper's own ambitions, but they recognized they were not big enough to do it on their own," said Mr Gary Mace, director of Fletcher's forest industries division.

UK Paper, Britain's largest papermaker and the product of a £38 million management buyout from Bowater Industries two years ago, will retain its management to run the company as an independent subsidiary.

Mr Tom Wilding, the UK Paper chairman and former teaboy whose 1.6 million shares are worth £6 million at the 375p bid price, said the company will spend another £25 million next year to strengthen capacity in order to boost its market share in the Britain and abroad.

UK Paper's shares closed down 11p to 367p.

Thomson is 'sole bidder for Ferranti'

By Angela Mackay

Thomson-CSF, the French electronics and defence group, along with GEC, is the only serious bidder left contending for Ferranti International, the British electronics group.

The French company has taken beneficial ownership of the 1.7 per cent in Ferranti bought by British Aerospace a couple of months ago. BAe and Thomson were in partnership to buy the company but BAe dropped out leaving Thomson standing alone. However, the two companies still maintain a joint venture.

Ferranti, which was defrauded of £215 million by part of International Signal & Control, its US subsidiary, has seen prospective bidders lose interest due to a lack of information from it according to three companies which signed due diligence agreements with Ferranti.

"No one wants to sink money into a black hole. The least we want to know is the depth and diameter of the hole," a former suitor said.

However, Ferranti's problems refocused the French group which has identified a way of buying sales of close to £900 million compared with £300 million if it bought Thorn-EMI's business.

Last week Daimler-Benz, the West German group, confirmed it had withdrawn from the fray. The news took 5p off Ferranti shares which closed then at 35p. Yesterday they lost 1p to 34p, before today's rescheduled annual meeting.

Ferranti last month arranged a £187 million rights issue underwritten by at least eight of its institutional investors.

Lord Weinstock's GEC is still mooted as a possible bidder or equity partner, but will not pay more than the rights issue price of 25p a share for the privilege.

Other potential suitors who have gradually lost interest in Ferranti include Westinghouse, the US group, Dowty, Smiths Industries, Fin Mechanica (a division of Aer Italia) and GM Hughes.

Ferranti last week anounced the sale of its computer manufacture and service offshoot for £17 million as part of an asset disposal scheme aimed at raising £100 million. The other main part of this scheme is the sale of Marquardt, the missile-making part of ISC.

Martin Marietta is believed to be the only bidder for the company but is balking at paying more than £60 million, £20 million less than Ferranti wants.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Plenty of mileage yet in NFC co-ownership

In London's Square Mile, where capitalism rules red in tooth and claw, NFC has always been an object of curiosity if not outright suspicion. Some of the largest and most respected institutional investors refused to partake of the flotation earlier this year, clearly unhappy at the two-tier voting structure that defends the control by worker shareholders and their families. Yet the truth of the matter is that, of all the Government's privatizations, the sale of the former National Freight Consortium to its employees is arguably the most successful.

The NFC workforce, unlike the investors who are today eagerly awaiting the postman's knock in order to sell their water company allocations, put money into their own employer with the idea of earning their rewards. They remained loyal throughout the 1980s and remarkably few cashed in when the group finally launched itself on the stock market last January. Few would deny them the £100 paper profit for each pound originally invested, for the results, even in a rough and ready business like transport and distribution, have been exemplary.

The latest profits, for the year to end-September show that there is plenty of mileage yet in NFC's co-ownership culture. Pre-tax profits were 34 per cent to the good at £106 million, earnings per share rose 29 per cent to 18.3p and total dividends climbed an impressive 31 per cent.

Those reluctant institutions may be surprised to note that NFC's management has not been pressured by the unusual working environment into ducking the tough decisions. Several hundred employees have been made redundant during the year in a drive to rationalize some over-capacity in the group's operations. For their part, the staff have co-operated in measures to improve productivity. On several measures, productivity continues to rise year by year.

There is little ground whatsoever for carping criticism over the first full-year profits since flotation. There were a number of factors which flattered the £23.1 million rise in profits. A pension fund surplus, with the benefits partly shared by the workforce, produced a £5 million boost. Closures eliminated perhaps £7 million of losses, and the interest saving from the rights issue cash raised in the flotation was worth perhaps another £5 million.

To offset this, NFC overcame tough trading conditions in no less than four operating areas. The truck rental market has been difficult, but progress in other transport operations made up the leeway. Despite a 35 per cent slowdown in housing sales, the NFC removals business gained considerable market share. Because the housing services division has been expanded internationally, the home service division lifted profits 23 per cent.

There was no bucking the ferocious competition in package holidays, and Pickfords Travel reported a £7 million turnround into losses of £3.5 million. Finally, troubles in the cold-store business were absorbed by strong growth in the logistics division.

NFC's best view of 1990 is that pre-tax profits might rise 16 per cent this year to £105 million. Brokers expect a little more than this, and the shares, at 259p, sell for around 12 times earnings. The premium seems amply deserved.

B&C sells Woodchester stake

By Neil Bennett

British & Commonwealth has sold its remaining 29.9 per cent stake stake in Woodchester Investments, the Irish leasing company, to Crédit Lyonnais, the French bank, for £49 million.

Trading in Woodchester shares was suspended at 150p before the start of business yesterday.

Lyonnais, which already owns Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank, the broker, is buying the stake at 118p per share, 32p below the market price.

The sale is part of British & Commonwealth's asset disposal programme. It comes just before the end of the group's year, so will help towards lowering its audited debts.

British & Commonwealth first announced in August that it was looking for a friendly buyer for the stake at the same time as it sold most of its original 61 per cent holding in a placing to institutions at 156p.



End of year sale: John Gunn, chairman of British & Commonwealth, which is selling assets

Saga prepares to go private

Saga Holidays is set to join the list of public companies that have gone private. Members of the founding De Haan family are contemplating an offer for the 37 per cent minority in their specialist tour operator held by outside investors. The family will probably get its way. For the 300p suggested may turn out to be more than 20 times current earnings when a forecast for 1989-90 is revealed in the offer document.

The move reflects two sets of pressures that have shown up elsewhere in recent months. The first is the torrid time tour operators are having, with mortgage borrowers in the south east forgoing the usual Mediterranean burn up while their incomes are squeezed. Volume was down by a third this year and forward bookings for 1990 are down by as much as 50 per cent.

Mr Roger De Haan, Saga's chairman, is not discussing current trading at this stage. Nonetheless, it is clear that the company is finding progress harder to achieve in its core business.

The other strand is the increasing dissatisfaction among proprietorially managed companies with the City. Saga was founded by Mr De Haan's father in 1950 and was one of the few companies to come to the market under the Wilson-Callaghan government. The motive was to reduce the risk of the company having to be sold outright to pay death duties.

The quote was useful to raise Saga's profile at a time when it was relatively unknown, but now Mr De Haan wants to diversify. He does not want to dilute the family holding by issuing shares, but if Saga were to depress profits in the short by pumping money into its fledgling publishing and insurance businesses, it would affect the City's evaluation of the company adversely.

He believes Saga has reached the stage where the quotation brings disadvantages. It is a sentiment that may ring a bell with the proprietors of some 500 USM companies which the City accords a combined value of only 2 per cent of the London market.

Inflation dips in the US

By Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Inflation in the US fell slightly last month. The consumer price index rose by 0.4 per cent compared with a rise of 0.5 per cent in October.

Last month's rise was a little more than the expected increase of 0.3 per cent. The core rate of inflation, excluding food and energy prices, also rose by 0.4 per cent. So far this year consumer prices have risen at an annual rate of 4.6 per cent compared with a 4.4 per cent rise for the whole of 1988.

Meanwhile new housing starts fell last month from 1.43 million to 1.36 million seasonally adjusted and permits from 1.36 million to 1.33 million.

The number of starts was slightly less than the 1.39 million predicted by Wall Street economists.

Housing construction weakened earlier in the year in the face of high interest rates but jumped by 13 per cent in October. Economists expect further gains as interest rates continue to come down.

Medirace moves to main market

By Our City Staff

Medirace, the fast-growing medical research group quoted on the Third Market, will begin trading on the full list next month following its £57.9 million acquisition of a company three times its size.

It has bought Evans Healthcare, the product of a £27 million management buyout from Glaxo, the pharmaceuticals group, two years ago, and is now one of Europe's leading generic drugs companies.

The merged company, to be called Medeva , will have a market capitalization of about £120 million. Medirace is funding the deal through a 16 for five rights issue, fully underwritten by Laing & Cruickshank, the broker, to raise £81.8 million net. In addition to the £57.9 million purchase price (£52.3 million cash and £5.6 million new Medirace shares), Medirace is paying off borrowings at Evans totalling £19.75 million.

Medirace, whose shares were suspended at 127p last month, is primarily involved in the research and development of Contracan, potentially a cure of AIDS and other viral infections.

Evans, which made operating profits of £5.2 million on sales of £43.7 million for the year to end-June, makes vaccines, prescription drugs and over-the-counter medicines like Dequadin throat lozenges and Sea-Legs travel pills.

Grampian £5m deal near

Grampian Holdings, Mr Bill Hughes's veterinary drugs, transport, sports goods and retail group, is expected to announce today the purchase of James Pringle, the woollens manufacturer.

The deal is thought to be worth about £5 million. Inverness-based James Pringle, which is not to be confused with Dawson International's Pringle of Scotland brand, operates from four locations, three of them in Scotland and one in Wales.

Standard in joint ventures

Standard Chartered has sold its continental banking operations to Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale for £90 million. It is also selling half of its merchant bank and a fifth of its financing business to WestLB for £67 million.

The deal will produce Chartered WestLB, a joint merchant bank, which the two banks hope to expand through Europe. The company will also include WestLB's smaller merchant banking business. The chairman will be Mr Patrick Macdougall, who is resigning as a director of Standard Chartered.

The sales also strengthen Standard's balance sheet by releasing £2 billion worth of assets.

The bank's capital ratio will rise by more than one per cent, which with property sales now makes the total 11 per cent, well ahead of the Bank of England minimum limit of 8 per cent. Standard's core capital ratio has risen from 4.1 per cent to 5.7 per cent, compared with the Bank's minimum of 4 per cent.

THE TIMES
1000
1989–1990

THE INDISPENSABLE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE WORLD'S LEADING INDUSTRIAL AND FINANCIAL COMPANIES

Compiled by Extel Financial

TIMES BOOKS £25

Available through all bookshops, including Geographia Map Shop, Ludgate Hill, London EC4.
Tel: 01 248 3554

No sex please at The Savoy

Ladbroke's aspirations to sublet its refurbished retail outlets in the east wing of The Savoy to whoever is prepared to pay the highest rent "regardless of profile", as revealed in the *City Diary* last week, could be about to run into problems. The bookmaking-to-Hilton Hotel group run by Cyril Stein bought a 999-year lease on the site, which stretches from in front of The Grill to above Simpson's in the Strand, for £7.5 million in the early 1980's. Rents to its existing tenants there — who include Citicorp, the American bank — are being increased and five retail outlets, in what was a branch of NatWest Bank on the corner linking the hotel entrance with The Strand, are due for completion in the new year. But Giles Shepard, managing director of The Savoy Group has clearly been looking into the matter and tells me that in Ladbroke's original lease, certain types of retailers are specifically excluded from operating on the site. "From memory some of these are gaming shops, undertakers, licensed premises, amusement arcades and sex shops," he says. "The licence allowing Ladbroke's to redevelop the bank premises is even more demanding on them, since it gives The Savoy a total veto over the acceptance of any retailers in the Courtyard. As a result, I believe that we are in a very reasonable position to ensure that those trading in the Courtyard will be Savoy in style."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Keith finds parking spot

Keith Woolcock's red convertible BMW is, on the move again. The electronics analyst, who fell victim to a purge first of all at Chase Manhattan, and then at CIBC, has this week started work at Laurence, Prust, as part of its existing electronics research team headed by Jerry Crowley. "I've been through three brokers this year — I'm now hoping that this one will be third time lucky," says Woolcock. The BMW, which he now takes with him from job to job, is clearly becoming something of an unlucky — or perhaps lucky, assuming generous pay-offs — talisman. When he was originally handed the keys to it by Chase on January 5 this year, he joked: "I hope I get time to get the roof off before this place closes." Chase closed its equities division the very next day.

Sonic boob

Once a salesman always a salesman. Simon Rose, once a top traded options salesman with Phillips & Drew and nowadays a freelance writer and broadcaster, has already sold 20 per cent of the initial print run of his first novel, *Filthy Lucre*, even though it is not officially published until January 15. "I persuaded Simon & Schuster, my publishers, to let me sell a few copies in the City and I've had a fantastic response," says Rose, aged 32. Brian Gregory, of BZW, a one-time partner of de Zoete & Bevan, paid £400 at a charity auction for the first copy off the presses, and Terry Collis, director of public affairs at Vickers tells me that he has been persuaded by Rose to send signed copies of the book to analysts as Christmas presents. "Unfortunately he signed quite a few copies, reducing their value considerably!," Collis laments. The novel, which is a comic farce about a sex-mad megalomaniac company chairman, encompasses Rose's penetrating observations of the present monetarist era. However, it also contains one minor error. The said chairman apparently books himself a row of three seats on Concorde so that he will not have to sit next to anyone else. "Several analysts have telephoned me to say that there are only two seats in a row on Concorde, which says something about their life-style," says Rose. "But as a poor, impoverished journalist I was ignorant of such facts."

Carol Leonard

Off target

The Kingfisher offer document may have been designed to upset the existing Dixons management, but it has also angered one former employee. Graham Beevers was singled out as deputy managing director of subsidiary Dixons Stores Group and the man in charge of the "Operation Reap" programme aimed at restoring the chain's fortunes. Speaking about his departure, the Kingfisher offer document queries, "Does this indicate that Operation Reap is an acknowledged failure?" According to Beevers, who confesses himself rather angry about the comment, it does not. He was, he says, not solely in charge of Operation Reap and his departure, planned sometime beforehand, was timed to coincide with his 20th year with the company for pension reasons. "It impliessomething that's convenient for Kingfisher but not true," he says, "and meanwhile I'm at a delicate stage of negotiations for a non-retail business of my own."



"If Santa doesn't deliver will the DTI cough up?"

BARLOW CLOWES OMBUDSMAN'S REPORT

Five areas where the DTI was at fault

Sir Anthony Barrowclough, the Parliamentary Ombudsman, yesterday published his report on the Department of Trade and Industry's handling of the Barlow Clowes affair. The following gives the main conclusions from his damning document



Sir Anthony Barrowclough: Parliamentary Ombudsman



Lord Young: Trade Secretary when the collapse came



The common link: Peter Clowes was the dominant partner in two different firms

As the result of my investigation, I identified five areas in which there had been, in my view, significant maladministration by the Department. The areas in question were the early licensing errors, the faults in relation to the Jersey partnership, the faults in the legitimising licence proposal, the failure as regards the erosion of capital issue and the licensing decisions in 1987.

If it had not been for the licensing errors in the period 1975 to 1981, it is virtually certain that the partnership would have received a licence and have had it regularly renewed, at least until the impact of the 1983 regulations and rules was felt. Under the earlier rules there was no mechanism which allowed a licence holder's conduct of his business to be monitored.

Following the coming into force of the 1983 regulations, the partnership would have been required to submit verified monitoring returns for all periods from 1 September, 1983.

If complaints or expressions of concern had come in — and if the partnership's file had contained details of the Jersey partnership — it seems to me that that might have led to inquiries about the Jersey partnership.

The Jersey partnership

If it had been appreciated that there was a separate Jersey partnership, the picture facing the Department would have been of two different firms, with the common link of Mr Clowes as dominant partner in each, carrying on very similar businesses under precisely the same name, and each soliciting investment remittances payable to "Barlow Clowes and Partners Clients' Account".

It seems to me certain that the Department would have sought to ensure that the investigation which they saw as necessary before any licence would be granted in respect of Barlow Clowes operation extended to the affairs of the Jersey partnership. Matters of concern would have included the extent to which United Kingdom residents were investors in the Jersey funds, how they had come to be investors in those funds, how those funds were managed, whether they were kept separate from the United Kingdom funds, or whether there was inter-mingling, the ownership, and reputation and fitness of Conwin Services Limited and, ultimately, whether the Jersey funds as well as the United Kingdom funds could be properly accounted for. Inquiries would, no doubt, have been made of the Jersey authorities, and the Department would have become aware of their views. So far as Mr Clowes was concerned, it seems certain that he would have sought to avoid any such extension of the investigation.

But I think it highly unlikely that Mr Clowes could have found any means of ensuring that investigation of the matters in question was averted, while at the same time satisfying the Department that his operations could properly be licensed. To my mind, therefore, it is a virtual certainty that the partnership's operations would have been brought to an end, in one way or another, within a relatively short time after the meeting of 18 December 1984.

The legitimising licence

I found that the Department were at fault in concluding that they could properly grant the partnership a legitimising licence in advance of receiving, through Spicers, the verification which they saw as being necessary. As to peremptory action, there was certainly room for a view that that was the proper course. In particular, the situation had been changed, as compared with December 1984, by the revelation of the very unsatisfactory state of affairs which existed within the partnership.

There is a very distinct possibility that the decision would have gone in favour of peremptory action.

Erosion of Capital

I found the Department were at fault in failing to appreciate that the instructions given to Spicers to carry out an audit of the partnership's client accounts would not, at least as regards some important Barlow Clowes portfolios, have enabled any reassurance to be gained on the score of the concern that the partnership could not make the payments of income they had guaranteed without eroding clients' capital.

To the extent that any cause for doubt was shown, attention would have had to be turned, of course, to the assets of the partnership and partners. As to what would have been revealed if inquiries had been made on these lines, as at 28 December 1984, the facts which have subsequently emerged provide ground for suspecting that an unfavourable picture would have been revealed. One cannot say more than that. There is therefore no more than a possibility that proper action would have led to the partnership's operations being halted.

The 1987 Licence

Here I found two elements of significant maladministration. The first was the delay in taking a decision following the receipt of information from the Stock Exchange. The second was the failure to perceive, and give urgent consideration to the additional option for action which Touche Ross's request for further time for the submission of the monitoring return had opened up.

I am left with the position that, if the maladministration had not occurred, it is possible, but not certain, that losses to subseqeunt investors would have been averted.

Summary

Three of the instances of maladministration which I found related to the 1984-85 licensing process. (Another — the early licensing failures — can be said to have had an impact on that process.) As to two of those three instances, I have been unable to say more than that there was a possibility that, if matters had been handled properly, the operations of Barlow Clowes, both here and overseas, would have been brought to a halt, sparing investors (or most of them) the losses they have suffered. However, in the case of the third instance — the failures in relation to the Jersey partnership — I could only conclude that if things had gone as they should, the upshot would have been the halting of the Barlow Clowes operations. That being so, it seemed to me unnecessary to dwell further on the later maladministration in relation to the 1987 licence — there was, to my mind, a strong case for compensation for those investors who had suffered as a result of Barlow Clowes being allowed to continue in business beyond the early part of 1985.

'So far as Mr Clowes was concerned, it seems certain that he would have sought to avoid any such extension of the investigation'

Before addressing the matter of compensation in detail, it is right that I should say something about what might be represented as the harshness of a conclusion that compensation should be paid on account of, it might be said, some minor oversights. For my part, however, I would not look at the matter in that way. A regulatory agency — which is what the Department were, at the time, in relation to the protection of investors — ought, to my mind, by definition to adopt a rigorous and enquiring approach as regards material coming into its possession concerning an undertaking about which suspicions have been aroused, and also as regards representations made to it on the part of the undertaking in question. And it was, in my view, the lack of a sufficiently rigorous and enquiring approach which led not only to the failure to appreciate that there was a Jersey partnership but also to some others of the faults I have identified.

Compensation

Generally, it seemed to me that no distinction of principle should be drawn between investors in the onshore funds and investors in the offshore funds. If action had been taken which had brought the operation of the onshore partnership to an end it would also in the circumstances have brought the offshore operations to an end. As to possible distinctions by reference to the date when investments had been made, it seemed that prima facie, a distinction would need to be drawn between investments made *after* the date on which, if matters had been handled properly in the 1984-85 licensing process, the operations of Barlow Clowes would have been brought to an end, and *investments made before that* date. As to those early investors, the possibility that, if the early licensing errors had not been made, their lot would have been improved on that account was, to my mind, so remote that it had to be discounted. On the other hand there was the possibility that, if action had been taken in 1984-85, the early investors would have suffered less from a collapse at that date than they suffered, in the event, from the collapse in 1988. There would, of course, be considerable difficulties about determining whether, and to what extent, that would have been the case; but that did not seem to me a sufficient basis for excluding the early investors entirely from the compensation process.

When I put to the Principal Officer of the Department my recommendation that the injustice which I had found investors to have suffered as a result of the Department's administrative failings ought to be remedied by the payment of compensation ... he indicated to me that the Government disagreed with a number of my specific findings and proposed to set out its views on those matters in a separate document to be published at the same time as my report. The Principal Officer also indicated that in the Government's view my report raised a number of important issues about the responsibilities of regulators, and said that the Government proposed to set out its views on these issues in the same document. However, the Principal Officer told me that the Government recognised that this case had created very great hardship, and involved a unique combination of unusual features. In the light of that the Government was, in the exceptional circumstances, and without admission of fault or liability, prepared to make a substantial payment to investors who had suffered loss. This payment would be made to investors in both Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers Limited and Barlow Clowes International Limited, in return for their assigning to the Secretary of State their rights, in the liquidation and against third parties, and giving an undertaking to provide reasonable assistance in the pursuit of those rights. The payments would not distinguish between early and late investors.

The Principal Officer summarised the basis for calculating the payments to investors as follows:

"First, a calculation would be made of the basic claim attributable to each investor at the date of the liquidation of the relevant company. This calculation would take into account not only the amount originally invested but also interest which would have been earned had the amount invested been deposited and earned compound interest in a long-term UK deposit account.

The amounts thus calculated would then be abated on the following basis. Where the basic claim as calculated was not greater than £50,000 it would be abated by 10 per cent. Where the basic claim was greater than £50,000 but not greater than £100,000 the first £50,000 would be abated by 10 per cent and the remainder would be abated by 20 per cent. Where the basic claim was over £100,000 the first £50,000 would be abated by 10 per cent, the next £50,000 by 20 per cent and the remainder by 40 per cent. Where an investor had more than one account his or her accounts would be aggregated for this purpose.

The amount to be paid would then be calculated by applying compound interest (up to the end of 1989) at an appropriate rate to the abated sum thus calculated, taking account of the interest which investors could have earned on sums which have already been paid in the liquidation or by third parties. This would give a gross figure, from which would be deducted the amounts already paid to investors in the liquidation or by third parties to give the total amount to be paid."

I was, of course, disappointed that the Government was not willing to give its unreserved acceptance to the findings I had made as the result of my investigation. Such indications as I had seen of the grounds for questioning my findings had left me altogether unconvinced. The Government had, however — with whatever reservations — proposed making substantial payments to Barlow Clowes investors, without distinguishing between the offshore and onshore funds and without reference to the dates of their investments. In that I saw ground for satisfaction. It remained, however, for me to consider whether the quantum of the proposed payments would be such as to enable me to say, in the terms of the Parliamentary Commissioner Act, that the injustice which I had found that investors had suffered in consequence of the Department's maladministration would be remedied by the payments. As to that, it seemed to me not unsatisfactory that those with investments of £50,000 or less would end up having received 90 per cent — and those with investments of up to £100,000 at least 85 per cent — of their capital and, in addition, compensation in the form of interest for loss of income on that amount since the collapse. These investors, with £100,000 or less invested, constitute, I understand, over 99.5 per cent of the number of investors involved. As to the larger investors, they would certainly be left with a greater percentage loss. On the other hand it seemed to me that the distinctions suggested by the Principal Officer were not without foundation. In the result I concluded that I could not say, in all the circumstances, that the Government's proposals would not constitute a fair remedy for the injustice which had been suffered.

COUNTDOWN TO LIQUIDATION

- 1973: Barlow Clowes and Partners formed to sell securities to private investors.
- April 1975: Peter Clowes approached the DTI about a publicity leaflet describing the company's gilt management service. The DTI concluded that the company should be licensed, but failed to follow the matter up.
- October 1983: The DTI again took an interest in Barlow Clowes, after seeing its gilt monitoring service advertised in the national press.
- December 1983: The DTI became aware that Barlow Clowes was dealing in securities under its Portfolio 28 Scheme.
- 22 May 1984: The DTI wrote to the company pointing out the *need for a licence for dealing in securities under the Prevention of* Fraud (Investments) Act 1958.
- 31 May 1984: An official of The Stock Exchange warned the DTI of a "vague feeling of unease" about Barlow Clowes.
- 12 September 1984: Nasdim (Fimbra) reported "alarming noises on the grapevine" about Barlow Clowes. It warned of possible cash flow problems.
- January 1985: The DTI took steps to reassure itself that clients' funds held by Barlow Clowes were in safe hands.
- January-June 1985: Correspondence on Barlow Clowes passed to Alex Fletcher, Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Papers also passed before Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry
- March 1985: The DTI was warned by its own solicitor that it risked negligence if problems arose with Barlow Clowes.
- 31 July 1985: Spicer and Pegler's audit of Barlow Clowes client accounts sent to the DTI. It gave "a reasonable assurance" that clients' funds were safe.
- 17 October 1985: Barlow Clowes International Ltd incorporated in Gibraltar.
- 22 October 1985: The DTI issued principals' licences to the UK operations. Mr Leon Brittan now Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Mr Michael Howard now Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs.
- September 1986: The DTI renewed the licences.
- 20 January 1987: Barlow Clowes applied to The Stock Exchange for membership.
- *February/March 1987: The DTI received audited monitoring* returns for the UK operations for the period up to June 30, 1986.
- 2 July 1987: The Surveillance Division of The Stock Exchange sent the DTI its draft paper on the application for membership.
- 14 October 1987: Decision to investigate Barlow Clowes under section 105 of the Financial Services Act and *meanwhile* to renew the licence.
- 22 April 1988: The DTI received the section 105 investigators' signed interim report.
- 23 May 1988: Securities and Investments Board served a prohibition order on Barlow Clowes under sections 65 and 70 of the Financial Services Act.
- 27 May 1988: SIB made a successful application for the company's winding-up and the appointment of a provisional liquidator.

German Trust in £13.2m placing

By Jeremy Andrews

The German Smaller Companies Investment Trust, which was launched four years ago to invest in the rash of smaller stocks floated in Frankfurt in the mid-eighties, is cashing in on the sharp rise in its share price with a £13.2 million placing and clawback offer.

The issue, which will result in a third being added on to the investment trust's equity, has been pitched at an 8 per cent discount to the market price beforehand.

The shares were originally offered at 100p in February 1985 by Lloyds Bank Fund Management and were still trading at below that level in the closing months of last year.

This year, however, the improved outlook for the West German economy and developments in Eastern Europe have led the shares to more than double to 245p prior to the announcement.

Units of five shares plus one warrant to subscribe for further shares at 100p have been placed at £12.90.

This compares with the aggregate market value of the units of £14.03.

The proceeds of the issue will preserve the net asset value of the shares, which were 225p fully diluted on December 15, after allowing for expenses.

Existing holders are able to claw back the units on a seven-for-100 basis.

The existing shares of German Smaller Companies Investment Trust closed 5p to 240p easier and the warrants were down by 2p to 181p on the news.

Sale of half-share in breweries 'will proceed'

Bond plea for time to stage survival plan

From Martin Winn, Sydney

Mr Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur, yesterday pleaded with shareholders to stand by his besieged Bond Corporation and give it time to implement a survival plan.

Speaking at the annual meeting in Perth, he said the company could make profits again despite a crippling Aus$6 billion (£2.92 billion) debt burden and the threat of receivership.

"With the continued cooperation of banks... and the support of shareholders we believe we can turn around once again and prosper," an optimistic Mr Bond told his mostly hostile audience.

He was lambasted for nearly an hour by several European investors, who are angry about plans to buy out almost $A1.3 billion of Bond group debt securities at less than half their face value. Bond Corporation, which last month reported a record Aus$980 million loss for the year to June, is under inquiry by the National Companies and Securities Commission, the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal and the Australian Stock Exchange.

The Australian Federal Police joined the trail this week, confirming that they are investigating allegations of illegal telephone "tapping" of Bond "enemies," including Mr Tiny Rowland's Lonrho.

But Mr Bond yesterday dismissed media reports of his problems as "sensationalized" and demanded "a fair go in reporting our side of the story."

He insisted that a crucial deal to sell a half-share of his Australian breweries to Lion Nathan, the New Zealand drinks group, would proceed, despite the collapse of an earlier Aus$2.5 billion joint venture plan.

Mr Bond echoed comments on Monday by Mr Doug Myers, the Lion Nathan chief executive, that a new agreement with Bond over the Swan, Castlemaine and Toobeys breweries is close.

The Bond group is relying on a brewing sale to pacify its bankers and stave off a more formal liquidation of its assets, which include 35 per cent of British Satellite Broadcasting.

Meanwhile, Bond Corporation yesterday raised another Aus$108 million of much needed cash by selling its half share of the Rural and Industries Bank Building in Perth, which houses its headquarters.



Drowning his sorrows: Alan Bond after yesterday's meeting

Delaney warning on profit

By Philip Pangalos

Delaney Group, the troubled Midland furniture-maker and shopfitter, has issued a profit warning following an appraisal of its trading position after the main selling season.

The company said it had become apparent that profits for the year to end-December will be significantly lower than expected because of a combination of the impact of high interest rates and a substantial fall in consumer demand.

Mr Nathu Ram Puri, who is a 29 per cent shareholder, was returned as Delaney's chairman last month after being ousted from the post in May. His reinstatement followed a 78 per cent fall in interim pre-tax profits to £329,000.

The expected upturn in demand which normally characterizes the second half has not happened.

Directors do not, therefore, believe that the result for the year as a whole will be materially better than the profits reported at the interim stage.

This does not include any benefits realized in connection with the sale and leaseback of the Portbury property.

The directors said that they remained confident that, as a result of current actions, the group would show a significant improvement in its trading results in 1990.

The shares firmed 1p to 27p.

The Next Move in Gold
0898 · 400 · 668
Daily investment bulletins on
The Beckman Hotline
0898 700 190
WATER SHARES
0898 · 500 · 196
CALLS COST 25p (CHEAP) & 38p (OTHER TIMES) PER MINUTE INC VAT
BROADSYSTEM LTD, THE ELEPHANT HOUSE, LONDON, NW1 8NP

Bank of Tokyo's fund move

By Neil Bennett

The Bank of Tokyo has bought out Touche Remnant, joint owner of its asset management subsidiary, and launched its own $2 billion (£1.25 billion) London investment management arm.

The bank has bought out Touche's 49 per cent stake in the five-year-old BTTR, a multi-currency fund and global equity investment house, for an undisclosed sum. The bank said the decision had been taken jointly, and that it would continue to work with Touche and Société Générale, its French parent.

Touche set up the joint venture as a way of establishing a presence in Tokyo.

The joint venture is being merged with the Bank of Tokyo International's investment business to form BOT Asset Management (BTAM).

The move is timed to coincide with changes in Japanese banking law coming into effect next year.

These changes will allow Japan's city and commercial banks to manage pension funds, traditionally the preserve of regional savings institutions. The bank expects BTAM's assets to grow by at least 40 per cent a year from the influx of pension funds.

Dwyer pre-tax profits advance 55% to £3.2m

By Our City Staff

Dwyer, the property investment and dealing company, reports pre-tax profits up 55 per cent to £3.24 million in the year to end-September, with net assets rising 15 per cent to £48.8 million or 279p a share.

This was helped by a 139 per cent jump in dealing profits to £3.57 million and a 92 per cent increase in rental income to £4.51 million. Fully diluted earnings edge up to 13.01p, against 13p last time. The final dividend is improved from 2p to 2.5p, making 4p for the year. The shares eased 2p to 183p.

Turnover, boosted by acquisitions, soared from £13.9 million to £28.3 million. Interest payments increased from £1.19 million to £3.79 million.

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Scot & New (aa)	Breweries	
2	Century	Oil,Gas	
3	Appletree Hldgs	Foods	
4	Dalgety (aa)	Foods	
5	Black Arrow	Industrials A-D	
6	Ultramar (aa)	Oil,Gas	
7	Ducros	Industrials A-D	
8	KLP	Paper,Print,Adv	
9	Stand Chart (aa)	Banks,Discount	
10	Ultgate (aa)	Foods	
11	Braithwaite	Industrials A-D	
12	Laird	Industrials L-R	
13	Reckitt	Industrials L-R	
14	Westacre	Industrials S-Z	
15	Hicking Pentecost	Textiles	
16	Nu-Swift	Industrials L-R	
17	Oil Search	Oil,Gas	
18	Renshaw	Industrials L-R	
19	Miller (Stanley)	Building,Roads	
20	VG Instruments	Electricals	
21	Davis (Godfrey)	Industrials A-D	
22	FKI (aa)	Electricals	
23	Microfilm Repro	Electricals	
24	FR Group	Motors,Aircraft	
25	Davies & Met 'A'	Industrials A-D	
26	Body Shop	Drapery,Stores	
27	Lec Refrigeration	Electricals	
28	Nat Aust Bk	Banks,Discount	
29	McAlpine (Alfred)	Building,Roads	
30	Electrocomponents	Electricals	
31	BA Intl	Industrials E-K	
32	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D	
33	Eurotunnel Units	Industrials E-K	
34	Molins	Industrials L-R	
35	Portsmouth Sund	Newspapers,Pub	
36	Delta	Electricals	
37	Standwick	Paper,Print,Adv	
38	Holmes Protection	Industrials E-K	
39	Brunning	Paper,Print,Adv	
40	Monotype	Industrials L-R	
41	Connells	Property	
42	Rosehaugh	Property	
43	Clayhithe	Industrials A-D	
44	Whatsoe	Industrials S-Z	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £12,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Modest retreat

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 11. Dealings end December 22. §Contango day December 27. Settlement day January 8. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/ earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.
(VOLUMES: PAGE 24).

Portfolio

PLATINUM

© Times Newspapers Limited

DAILY DIVIDEND

£2,000

Claims required for +36 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

ELECTRICALS

E-K

L-R

S-Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 28

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

WATER

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL Tel: 0345 717373 (Linkline)				
Gilt/Fixed	107.8	114.4	+0.7	8.74
High Inc Equity	136.3	145.6	-0.1	4.36
W'wide Bond	208.2	220.8	-0.2	4.81
Amer Growth	198.2	210.9	-4.3	1.04
Asian Pacific	123.8	131.2	..	0.69
Assets/Earns	157.2	168.2	-0.3	2.20
Capital Res	88.54	93.71	+0.20	0.75
Commod/Energy	119.3	127.8	..	1.49
Euro Capit	100.9	107.4	-0.6	0.70
General	179.8	192.3	-0.4	2.80
Japan	129.1	137.4	-1.5	0.00
UK Gth Inc	117.7	125.3	-0.2	2.53
Do Acc	178.3	190.7	-0.3	1.87
US Emerg Cos	54.04	57.49	-0.94	0.00
Income/Gth	306.8	328.0	-0.5	3.13
Mastertst Acc	93.17	99.85	-0.72	1.71
Amer Inc	54.39	58.51	-0.90	4.58
Ethical	47.08	50.30	-0.20	1.98
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10, Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ Tel: 0224 633070 dealing (Freephone) 0800 833580				
Am Inc/Gth	33.34	35.59	-0.39	3.02
Euro	79.82	84.69	-0.06	0.00
Euro Inc	76.81	81.79	-0.34	2.06
Exempt	762.8	814.1	-2.6	1.62
Extra Inc	44.04	47.02	-0.04	4.26
F/E Emerg Eo	65.06	69.70	+0.25	0.08
Invest	136.0	145.2	-0.2	1.68
Do Acc	213.3	227.7	-0.3	1.67
Gt/Fxd Interest	20.27	21.63	-0.05	11.43
Inc Growth	72.41	77.20	-0.09	3.61
Intl Inc	67.94	72.53	-0.65	4.44
Jap & Genrl	220.5	235.4	-3.1	0.00
Pacific	46.87	50.19	..	0.07
Secure Inc	198.2	211.6	-0.5	5.63
Smlr Cos	53.87	57.51	-0.14	2.20
Spec Sits	69.95	74.67	+0.09	0.94
UK Growth	37.84	40.39	-0.03	2.00
World Gth	57.27	61.14	-0.02	0.00
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL Tel: 0793 514514 dealing 0793 610366				
High Inc	352.8	375.7	-1.4	4.17
Equity Inc	196.0	208.7	-0.5	4.59
High Yield	208.9	220.3	-0.9	4.88
Balanced	491.7	523.6	-3.6	3.11
Am Inc	36.59	38.96	-0.64	2.95
World Ass Val	37.24	39.65	-0.43	0.96
Japan	185.4	197.1	-1.3	0.01
Sec of Am	258.4	273.0	-6.9	0.32
Asset Value	382.6	407.4	-2.4	2.82
O'seas Earn	258.8	273.4	-2.7	2.56
Recov	111.3	118.5	-0.8	2.12
UK Spec Sits	294.8	313.7	-2.6	2.57
Smlr Cos	168.1	179.0	-0.2	2.34
Capit	293.8	313.0	-2.4	2.20
Am Spec Sit	84.06	89.52	-1.47	1.59
Intl	114.0	121.4	-1.3	0.79
Growth/Inc	174.7	186.0	-1.3	3.63
Euro Gth	25.86	27.54	-0.16	1.05
Pacific	303.6	323.3	-1.0	0.07
2nd Smlr Co	167.5	178.3	+0.6	1.81
BARCLAYS UNICORN Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7 Tel: 01-534 5544				
Capit	92.87	99.06	-0.26	3.42
Euro Gth Inc	99.0	105.6	-0.9	1.16
Extra Inc	104.0	110.9	+0.2	5.54
General	197.1	210.2	-0.3	3.53
Gt/Fxd Income	48.72	51.39	+0.04	10.55
Inc Trust	459.8	490.6	-0.2	4.85
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ Tel: 01-658 9002				
Am Sm Cos	57.29	60.76	-1.45	1.10
Australia	70.81	76.15	-0.03	1.60
Convertible	49.02	52.00	+0.07	7.20
East	132.5	141.3	-0.4	1.20
Equity Inc	76.88	81.87	-0.21	6.50
Euro Gth	186.9	198.2	..	1.40
Euro Smlr Cos	187.2	198.6	-1.4	0.30
Exempt	66.25	70.66	..	3.50
Growth/Inc	91.87	95.20	-0.14	2.70
Do Acc	146.2	155.5	-0.2	2.70
Global Gth	77.44	82.16	-0.94	0.10
Jap Spec	199.7	212.4	+0.1	0.00
Jap Sunrise	182.9	194.5	-1.4	0.00
1st N Am	57.37	60.86	-1.35	1.70
UK Growth	66.93	71.01	-0.04	2.90
UK Smlr Cos	88.71	94.12	-0.13	2.20
Select Man Fd	56.72	60.17	-0.17	1.00
BROWN SHIPLEY 9-17, Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath Tel: 0444 458144				
Financial	150.1	160.6	-0.9	3.94
Smlr Cos Acc	289.7	310.4	-0.3	0.80
Do Inc	179.3	192.7	-0.3	1.28
High Inc	84.46	90.27	+0.16	5.80
Income	107.7	115.2	-0.2	5.34
Man Port Inc	91.11	97.49	-0.19	2.64
Do Acc	159.0	170.1	-0.4	2.20
Nth Amer	64.93	69.45	-0.86	0.38
Orient	138.5	148.2	-1.3	0.38
Exempt	289.2	317.3	-0.8	2.76
Recov	58.49	62.62	-0.31	3.80
German	36.36	38.95	-0.17	0.60
Intl Recov	31.70	33.92	-0.15	2.60
Europe	22.78	24.55	-0.20	2.40
Conv Genrl	24.12	25.81	-0.04	7.60
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT First Floor 80 Cannon St London EC4N 6HH Tel: 01-588 2868 01-623 5818 Fax 01 283 0407				
Emer Gth Inc	61.54	65.29	+0.06	2.77
Do Acc	62.93	66.77	+0.07	2.77
Fellowship Inc	64.73	68.68	-0.42	3.06
Genrl Inc 4	295.3	315.0	-0.4	3.14
Do Acc 4	508.8	538.6	+1.9	3.14
Inc Fund 3	162.2	173.2	-0.3	4.92
Do Acc 3	323.7	343.4	-0.5	4.92
Intl Inc 2	114.7	121.3	-2.4	1.00
Do Acc 2	157.7	166.8	-3.2	1.00
Smlr Inc 5	104.1	110.4	-2.3	2.37
Do Acc	115.5	122.5	+0.1	2.37
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 117 Fenchurch Street London EC3M 5AL Tel: 01-480 7216				
Shrt Gt Fxd Int	55.22	56.02	+0.02	2.82
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1, Olympic Way, Wembley Middx HA9 0NB Tel: 01-902 8876				
Growth	38.74	41.43	+0.11	2.47
Income	49.27	52.63	-0.12	3.92
Far East	42.51	45.22	-0.29	0.05
Nth Amer	38.13	40.78	-1.33	1.76
Global	58.25	61.97	-0.85	1.58
European	66.87	71.52	-0.46	0.75
Japan	124.2	132.1	-1.1	0.01
Strategic Opp	51.41	54.98	+0.08	1.32
Do Acc	54.86	59.15	-0.28	5.27
Intl Currency	45.20	47.81	+0.10	6.26

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
CAPABILITY TRUST MANAGERS LTD 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Tel Enquiries: 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 261010				
Am & Gen	83.71	88.95	-2.01	1.39
Do Acc	87.81	93.42	-2.11	1.39
European	66.28	70.51	-0.33	0.81
Do Acc	67.51	71.82	-0.34	0.81
F East/Gen	73.29	77.97	-0.40	0.00
Do Acc	73.29	77.97	-0.40	0.00
Gilt/Inv	255.8	272.1	-1.8	1.92
Do Acc	269.1	286.3	-1.9	1.92
Growth	268.8	285.7	-0.8	3.17
Do Acc	417.7	444.4	-1.2	3.17
Inc & Gth Inc	330.4	351.6	-3.1	4.21
Do Acc	376.5	400.5	-3.7	4.21
Master Portfl	226.74	89.89	-0.48	2.22
Do Acc	232.42	95.77	-0.50	2.22
Spec Sits	63.44	67.49	-0.28	2.91
Do Acc	67.17	71.46	-0.30	2.91
CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT PO Box 552 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU Tel: 01-626 0808 01-626 6363				
Amer Index	141.1	149.3	-3.0	1.69
Capit	472.9	504.8	+8.7	4.04
Euro Index	127.7	135.1	-0.8	1.81
Euro S S	76.92	81.02	-0.42	2.35
Far East S S	76.30	81.43	+0.25	0.00
Gold Gen S S	71.83	76.65	-0.19	4.04
Income	422.8	451.2	-0.1	5.28
Intl Sp Sits	67.10	71.61	-0.58	1.49
Jap Index	101.9	106.8	-1.0	0.00
N Amer	304.3	324.7	-0.3	1.75
Tiger Index	99.80	105.7	+0.29	1.70
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 16 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN Tel: 01-606 0708				
Euro Port	66.83	71.48	+0.19	1.50
Portf	60.77	65.00	+0.16	2.62
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ Tel: 01-588 1815				
Inv	636.05	c	..	4.91
Fixed Int	134.26		..	10.65
Deposit	100.0		..	14.65
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ Tel: 01-588 1815				
Income	515.68		..	4.96
Acc	217.3353		..	
Deposit	100.0		..	15.15
CHASE MANHATTAN FUND MANAGERS Leconfield House Curzon Street London W1Y 8AL Tel: 01-725 7733				
SC Spec Sits	57.37	60.71	..	6.17
CHINA UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 3, Thomas Street, EC2V 8AR Tel: 01-726 2371				
Euro Gth	64.08	68.93	+0.16	1.34
1992 Euro Spc	64.42	68.90	+0.19	0.94
Intl Inc	61.28	65.55	+0.20	3.57
NAm Gth	54.24	58.01	-0.49	1.65
Pacific Gth	80.04	85.60	+0.07	3.27
UK Gth Acc	81.95	87.65	+0.48	3.42
Do Dist	76.07	81.36	+0.46	3.42
UK Income	64.64	69.13	+0.36	6.47
CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH Tel: 0800 373393				
Am Growth	35.32	26.53	-0.45	0.19
Atlas Gth	28.56	30.38	-0.36	0.47
Dragon Gth	36.89	39.24	-0.03	1.18
Equity HI Inc	63.69	67.09	-0.11	4.94
Do Acc	68.91	72.16	-0.12	4.94
Euro Growth	39.01	41.50	-0.15	0.97
Genrl Equity	57.97	61.12	-0.11	3.00
Intl Inc	25.65	27.29	-0.20	5.44
Jap Growth	58.76	62.51	-0.83	0.00
Pedigree Gth	31.53	34.28	-0.02	2.51
Retire Inc	23.57	25.07	..	6.82
Do Acc	24.66	26.22	+0.01	6.82
Spec Sits	33.66	35.61	-0.25	2.47
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS St Helen's, 1, Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ Tel: 01-283 7500 Dealing 01-686 9815				
Am Gth	69.46	73.89	-1.25	2.16
Euro Gth	80.92	86.09	-0.65	0.04
Far East	95.22	101.3	-0.63	0.00
Gamma Inc	35.84	37.91	-0.23	2.26
Do Acc	36.23	38.54	-0.22	2.26
Gilt/Fxd Int	45.28	48.10	+0.15	7.34
Inc	64.37	68.48	-0.66	3.74
Do Acc	71.73	76.31	-0.72	3.74
Jap Gwth	49.67	52.84	-0.26	0.50
Monthly Inc	46.06	48.99	-0.12	10.09
Private Inv Pt	51.51	54.80	-0.25	5.27
Profess Inv Pt	59.6	63.40	-0.6	2.18
Prog Inv Pt	56.02	59.60	-0.46	2.57
UK/Gen Inc	65.17	69.33	-0.66	2.76
Do Acc	70.70	75.21	-0.73	2.76
W'wide Bond	50.67	53.90	-0.01	5.77
W'wide Sp Sits	54.79	58.80	+4.53	0.37
Do accum	58.03	59.93	-0.50	0.37
Quilter Gen Inc	101.8	108.2	-1.1	2.49
Quilter Inc	96.82	102.9	-0.60	5.02
Quilter Intl Acc	116.3	123.7	-1.4	0.92
CROWN UNIT TRUST SERVICES LTD Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW Tel: 04862 5033				
Amer	138.0	148.4	-2.6	0.41
Canadian Gth	28.32	30.45	-0.24	0.47
Euro	143.8	155.3	-0.4	0.10
Gth Trust	345.1	369.1	-2.1	2.65
High Inc	382.0	408.5	-1.8	4.48
Intl Tech	129.4	139.1	-1.3	0.65
Investment	37.93	40.57	-0.16	0.27
Japanese	336.9	362.5	-3.1	0.00
Man Int	35.53	38.20	-0.29	1.83
EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 4, Melville Crescent, Edinburgh Tel: 031-226 3492				
Amer	75.69	80.42	-1.36	1.24
Capit	136.8	145.4	-0.3	1.39
Convertible	23.70	25.18	+0.02	7.64
Eurofund	35.38	37.55	+0.26	0.80
Growth/Inc	213.9	227.3	-3.0	4.16
High Dist	166.2	176.6	-0.4	5.86
Intl	278.3	295.7	-3.0	1.31
Pacific	40.07	42.69	-0.16	0.70
Reserves	28.05	27.87	-0.06	0.00
Smlr Jap Cos	65.06	69.01	-0.81	0.00
Tokyo	246.0	260.8	-3.5	0.00
Ex Am 2	143.1	147.0	-2.8	1.53
Ex Jap 3	156.5	160.8	..	0.13
Ex Pacific 4	578.5	595.4	..	0.18
Ex Smlr Jap 4	522.0	538.4	..	0.07
EAGLE STAR UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ Tel: 0242 521311				
UK Balan Inc	96.63	102.8	-0.20	2.44
Do Acc	104.8	111.5	-0.2	2.44
UK Gth Accum	150.0	159.6	-0.1	2.30
UK High Inc	109.5	116.5	-0.2	5.98
N Amer Acc	76.74	81.64	-1.42	0.85
Far East Acc	155.1	165.0	-1.1	0.47
Euro Acc	120.5	128.2	-0.9	0.81
UK Gilt/FI Inc	52.78	55.41	+0.19	9.39
Do Acc	68.43	71.84	+0.24	9.39
Intl Sp S Acc	47.61	50.65	-0.51	1.31

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 41, Harrington Gardens London SW7 4JU Tel: 01 373 7281				
Endurance	150.7	160.3	..	2.25
EQUITABLE UNITS ADMINISTRATION Walton Street Aylesbury, HP21 7QW Tel: 0296 431480				
Equitable Pelican	107.7	113.4	-1.01	4.14
High Inc	110.9	116.7	-0.48	5.81
Gt/Fxd Interest	49.68	52.29	+0.03	8.38
T Of Inv Ts	118.0	124.3	-0.67	2.26
Spec Sits	109.7	115.5	-0.28	3.65
N Am	75.07	79.06	-1.58	1.15
Far East	195.6	205.9	-1.15	0.86
Intl Gth	81.60	85.89	-0.57	1.59
Euro	59.15	62.28	-0.15	1.45
EQUITY & LAW St. George Hse Corporation St. Coventry CV1 1GD Tel: 0203 553231				
UK Gth Accum	228.8	241.5	+0.1	3.71
Do Inc	179.3	190.6	+0.1	3.71
Higher Inc Acc	463.7	492.8	+0.7	4.97
Do Inc	301.3	320.6	+0.5	4.97
Gilt&Fxd Acc	118.3	124.5	+0.4	9.03
Do Inc	79.38	83.52	+0.26	9.03
N America	147.8	157.3	-4.9	0.00
Far East	274.5	292.1	-4.0	0.02
Europe	243.9	259.5	+0.9	0.37
Genrl	326.9	349.9	-0.9	3.69
Br Excellence	48.84	51.96	+0.16	3.46
Br Fortis Inc	56.05	59.63	+0.23	6.59
Do Acc	60.99	64.89	+0.26	6.59
Global Ops	63.50	67.56	-0.59	0.00
FS INVESTMENT MANAGERS 190, West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA Tel: 041-332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	79.56	84.64	-0.26	1.00
Do Inc	76.49	81.31	-0.25	1.00
High Yield Acc	35.10	37.34	-0.14	4.90
Do Inc	30.53	32.47	-0.12	4.90
Inc Gth Acc	61.65	65.59	-0.41	4.08
Do Inc	48.23	51.30	-0.33	4.08
Service Co Acc	72.83	77.48	-0.64	1.19
Do Inc	70.5	75.0	-0.6	1.19
Am Gth Acc	29.98	31.89	-0.74	0.77
Do Inc	29.45	31.33	-0.72	0.77
Euro Gth Acc	29.74	31.64	-0.18	0.61
Do Inc	29.30	31.17	-0.18	0.61
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Road Hildenborough Kent TN11 9DZ Tel: 0800 414161				
American	144.6	153.1	-3.6	0.00
Am Equity Inc	33.72	35.80	-0.57	3.36
Am Spec Sits	63.93	67.69	-0.92	0.00
Australia	26.38	28.00	..	0.02
European	115.8	123.0	-0.6	..
Euro Inc	30.30	32.23	-0.25	2.89
Global Conv	23.23	24.85	+0.04	4.35
Far East Inc	41.21	43.74	+0.01	2.16
Gt/Fxd Interest	26.46	26.70	+0.07	9.66
Growth/Inc	131.2	140.6	-0.3	4.12
Jap Spec Sits	111.4	118.4	-0.5	..
Japan	210.2	223.4	-0.9	..
Managed Int	175.7	186.9	-1.9	0.00
Inc Plus	119.1	127.8	+0.2	4.16
Famous Names	48.20	51.73	-0.03	0.23
SE Asia	64.25	68.47	-0.36	0.00
Spec Sits	368.8	394.2	+0.1	0.00
East Opps	35.71	38.01	+0.01	0.00
Intl Bond	27.22	28.75	-0.03	6.17
Recov	34.45	36.65	-0.03	0.81
Moneybuilder	34.50	36.76	-0.15	0.53
Euro Ops 1992	40.06	42.70	-0.21	0.00
FOREIGN & COLONIAL Adlain 5, Rayleigh Road Hutton Essex Tel: Enquiries: 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 261010				
Euro Income	91.87	98.28	-0.57	2.81
Far East	128.8	137.6	-0.8	0.00
Financials	55.02	58.84	-0.35	2.16
Fixed Interest	59.69	63.36	+0.27	10.21
Intl Tech	120.0	128.3	-1.7	0.66
Nest Res	77.66	83.25	-0.82	1.40
O'seas Income	70.07	74.94	-1.25	3.67
UK Growth	79.60	85.45	-0.29	1.81
UK Inc Fund	106.0	113.4	-1.0	4.72
US Major	60.93	64.96	-1.30	0.58
US Smlr Cos	105.7	113.1	-2.6	0.30
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ Tel: 01-628 5181				
Am Smlr Cos	221.8	234.7	-4.5	..
Do Acc	225.5	239.7	-4.7	..
Am T'rnd Inc	268.1	281.5	-4.5	..
Do Acc	275.9	291.9	-4.7	..
Capit Inc	268.4	284.0	-0.3	2.69
Do Acc	342.3	362.2	-0.4	2.69
Conv Inc	114.1	120.7	+0.1	7.04
Do Acc	174.3	184.4	..	7.04
Euro Inc	97.43	103.1	-0.66	0.51
Do Acc	98.85	104.6	-0.78	0.51
Extra Inc Inc	275.7	291.7	-0.1	5.23
Do Acc	329.1	348.2	..	5.23
Financial Acc	67.48	71.40	-1.03	0.41
Do Inc	66.39	70.25	-1.01	0.41
Inc Trust	182.2	192.7	-0.2	5.28
Do Acc	216.5	229.2	-0.3	5.28
Intl Gth	187.7	198.6	-3.1	..
Do Acc	208.4	220.5	-3.3	..
Jap & Gen Inc	180.0	190.4	-1.7	..
Do Acc	181.6	192.2	-1.7	..
Monthly Inc	136.6	144.7	+0.1	6.19
PEP 87		69.82	-0.01	3.75
PEP 88	58.18	58.52	-0.03	3.87
Recov	204.3	216.1	-2.3	1.72
Do Acc	228.5	241.7	-2.6	1.72
Smlr Inc	51.78	54.77	+0.02	3.50
Do Acc	53.60	56.93	+0.02	3.50
Cheval Gth Inc	50.43	51.98	+0.14	1.00
Do Acc	50.43	51.98	+0.14	1.00
Cheval Inc Inc	51.54	53.13	+0.03	10.00
Do Acc	51.54	53.13	+0.03	10.00
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH Tel: Dealing 0722 411411 Admin 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	291.8	310.4	-0.48	2.76
Do Acc	528.8	563.7	-0.83	2.76
Euro Gth Dist	98.58	104.8	-0.51	0.47
Do Acc	99.52	105.8	-0.52	0.47
Fixed Int Dist	112.1	118.5	+0.24	8.71
Do Acc	158.0	167.2	+0.09	8.71
Int Gth Dist	74.78	79.53	-0.73	0.34
Do Acc	75.76	80.60	-0.74	0.34
N Am Dist	147.2	158.2	-2.30	0.86
Do Acc	152.9	162.8	-2.36	0.86
Pac Basin Dist	235.6	250.9	-1.23	0.10
Do Acc	236.8	251.6	-1.18	0.10
Stwd Dist	258.0	274.4	+0.13	2.17
Do Acc	260.3	288.2	+0.14	2.17
Stwd Inc Dist	60.09	63.69	-0.05	4.79
Do Acc	64.19	68.29	-0.07	4.79
NAm Stwd Dist	65.77	69.94	-0.85	0.27
Do Acc	67.61	71.90	-0.87	0.27
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8, Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ Tel: 01-283 2575 Dealing 01-626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	77.21	82.58	-2.10	0.00
UK Cap Inc	148.4	158.6	..	2.28
Do Acc	228.4	244.3	..	2.28
Do Spec Sits	57.12	61.42	+0.25	1.00

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Inc Fund	112.0	119.8	+0.2	5.69
Intl	206.8	220.8	-2.1	0.10
US/Genrl	69.56	63.94	-1.22	1.80
Jap & Genrl	459.4	491.4	-1.4	0.00
Far East/Gen	209.5	224.1	+0.8	0.00
Euro	398.2	425.9	..	0.00
Germany	94.12	100.6	+0.30	0.30
Intl Inc	59.32	63.45	-0.45	5.13
W'wid Spec Sit	79.12	84.62	-0.70	0.69
Global Prp Inc	58.76	63.94	-0.49	1.80
Do Acc	60.46	64.69	-0.63	1.80
Smlr Cos Div	46.41	49.64	-0.01	4.05
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument St, London EC3R 8AJ Tel: 01-623 1212 Dealing: 0277 264421 Services: 0800 289336				
UK Growth Trusts				
British Gth	30.22	32.38	-0.14	3.84
Pract Inv Inc	86.76	91.96	-0.29	2.26
Do Acc	165.3	177.2	-0.56	2.26
UK Sel Opps	97.79	104.8	-0.16	1.84
Income Trusts				
Extra Inc	88.3	87.70	-0.2	6.17
Fxd Interest	27.29	28.17	+0.01	9.85
High Inc	32.74	35.02	-0.20	4.28
Income	172.4	118.1	-0.66	3.86
Intl Fxd Int	33.55	34.70	+0.01	7.22
UK Sml Cos	102.9	110.3	+0.08	0.86
International Trusts				
Intl Res	74.37	79.75	-0.44	1.80
Frontier Mkts	37.49	38.88	+0.81	0.00
Global	197.7	210.7	-2.20	0.39
Do Dist	186.5	196.8	-2.16	0.38
Glob Inc/Gth	88.71	92.82	-0.53	5.48
Gold Shares	19.11	20.49	-0.02	1.78
Intl Sel Opps	140.7	150.4	-1.08	1.30
W'wide Recov	103.1	110.3	-1.01	2.00
Overseas Trusts				
American	85.71	91.53	-1.63	1.08
Am Sel Opp	35.59	37.96	+0.09	2.05
Australian	17.34	18.39	-0.05	2.77
European	69.19	73.69	-0.34	0.73
Euro Sel Opp	89.75	95.61	-1.41	0.00
Far East	162.8	172.1	..	0.60
Hedged Am	39.32	41.77	-0.72	0.50
Hong Kong	38.68	41.20	-0.22	2.88
Japan	184.8	196.2	-1.88	0.00
Jap S/Opp	96.30	102.4	-0.71	0.00
Pacific Gth	81.45	86.69	-0.36	0.17
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton Hse, 4, Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR Tel: 01-378 7979 Dealing 01-588 0626				
Intl Gth	117.4	125.5	-1.22	0.83
Amer Growth	80.92	85.90	-2.84	0.50
Amer Inc	76.92	82.28	-1.01	4.41
Euro Growth	68.9	73.7	+0.2	1.17
Gold/Mins	57.59	61.58	-0.20	0.55
Jap Growth	89.37	95.52	-0.60	0.00
Pacific Inc	120.1	128.4	-0.31	2.93
Pacific Smlr	72.83	77.99	-0.20	0.41
UK Prog Inc	79.83	85.16	+0.19	5.16
UK Spec Opps	158.5	169.2	-0.55	2.38
St British	47.93	51.26	-0.14	1.46
UK Sml Co	46.62	49.78	-0.06	2.45
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 36 Harbour Exchange Square London E14 9GE Tel: 01-538 8860				
Gt/Fxd Interest	108.5	114.2	+0.2	8.80
Gth Equity	283.1	299.5	+0.5	2.30
Guardhill	402.8	424.4	-0.9	3.08
Inc Tst	114.6	121.2	-0.3	5.03
Intl	142.7	151.0	-1.7	1.03
N Amer	168.7	178.4	-3.5	1.21
Pacific	365.7	388.9	-1.3	0.00
Prop Share	303.9	321.5	-0.6	3.13
Smlr Cos	278.7	295.9	-2.5	2.21
Euro	344.8	364.8	-2.1	0.74
GUINNESS MAHON UNIT TRUST MANAGERS PO Box 442, 32 St Mary-at-Hill, London EC3P 3AJ, Tel: 01-623 9333				
Global Gth	56.18	60.11	-0.44	1.08
High Inc	91.14	97.52	+0.01	7.19
N Am	135.1	144.5	-2.3	1.23
Pacific Gth	62.97	67.38	-0.16	0.00
Recov	329.3	352.4	-1.6	4.30
St Vin Inc	120.4	128.4	-0.2	7.83
St Vin US Gth	58.98	61.34	-0.93	0.43
TB Sm Cos	253.0	268.7	..	2.98
TBUSF	160.5	162.8	..	3.98
Euro Gth Tst	70.71	75.66	-0.71	0.80
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Admin: 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, Tel: Enquiries 0277 227300 Dealing 0277 261010				
Amer Equity	67.91	72.05	-0.68	0.20
Canadian	55.27	58.64	-0.25	2.39
Equity Inc	117.9	125.4	+0.5	5.26
Euro	122.8	130.3	-0.8	0.46
High Inc	85.76	91.23	+0.39	7.44
Intl Sits	57.29	61.26	+0.10	1.08
Jap & Far East	153.9	163.3	-0.1	0.46
N Am	78.77	83.59	-1.57	0.46
Recov/Asset	63.60	67.48	+0.27	2.99
Scandinavian	110.4	117.1	-1.1	0.44
Smlr Cos	32.64	34.72	+0.07	2.88
UK New Genrn	41.39	44.02	-0.02	1.99
HENDERSON Premier UT Administration Admin 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, Tel: 0277 261010				
Am Recov	116.9	124.4	-3.28	1.26
Am Smlr Cos	50.20	53.57	-0.91	0.00
Australian	123.1	131.8	+0.30	3.48
Capit Gth Inc	73.24	78.23	-0.17	3.98
Do Acc	88.54	95.64	-0.21	3.98
European	335.5	357.3	-2.15	0.31
Euro Inc	59.71	63.87	-0.03	3.04
Euro Smlr Cos	128.6	137.5	-1.15	0.00
Extra Inc	248.3	268.0	-1.46	6.61
Financial	187.2	201.1	-0.86	2.95
Fixed Interest	48.33	51.46	+0.08	10.55
Global Inc/Gth	70.82	75.47	-0.43	4.15
Global Resrces	84.79	91.93	-0.62	1.39
High Inc	278.4	298.1	+0.35	4.57
Hong Kong	68.98	73.47	-0.55	2.45
Income/Gth Inc	208.0	223.0	-1.80	4.14
Do Acc	455.0	487.7	-3.94	4.14
Inc Assets	150.7	162.1	-0.13	4.29
Intl	209.0	222.5	-2.07	0.74
Jap Spec Sits	254.2	270.8	-2.09	0.00
Jap	252.6	269.0	-1.80	0.00
Nth Amer	164.9	175.4	-3.05	1.67
Pac Smlr Cos	137.7	146.9	-0.24	0.35
Pension Man	52.64	55.09	-0.17	2.97
Pref/Gilt	51.69	54.98	+0.02	10.59
Recov	143.8	157.9	+0.22	3.80
Singap Malay	58.40	62.24	-0.22	0.15
Smlr Cos Div	166.6	177.0	+0.07	4.92
Spec Sits Inc	208.4	222.3	+0.10	1.73
Do Acc	300.0	320.1	+0.15	1.73
Euro Exmpt	152.6	159.2	-0.88	0.87
Glo Tec Exmpt	70.66	73.79	-0.38	0.59
HI Inc Exempt	180.8	190.1	-0.66	4.88
Jap Exmpt	259.5	281.9	-2.88	0.00
N Am Exmpt	108.1	113.1	-2.11	1.86
Pacific Exmpt	239.2	248.5	-0.31	1.24
Smlr Co Expt	172.0	184.3	+0.40	2.62
Best of British	46.02	49.22	-0.10	3.25
Spirit Of East	49.03	52.34	-0.14	2.49

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon Tel: 01-686 4355 01-628 8011				
British	72.97	78.04	-0.12	2.79
Capit	130.1	139.1	-0.3	1.79
Dollar	228.4	245.3	-3.6	0.45
Euro	172.4	184.3	-1.4	0.38
Far East	177.3	189.6	..	0.00
Financial	505.8	540.9	-1.3	2.18
G/F Intrst Inc	24.94	26.91	+0.03	8.84
High Yield	93.91	100.3	-0.01	5.64
Inc Trust	118.3	126.5	-0.1	3.92
Intl	173.6	185.6	-1.2	0.54
Jap Tech	72.38	77.38	-0.20	0.00
Natrl Resrces	62.63	66.87	-0.81	1.60
Security	242.5	259.3	..	1.91
Smlr Cos	109.4	117.0	-0.4	1.48
Spec Sits	136.6	146.2	-0.1	1.77
US Smlr Cos	32.94	35.22	-0.58	0.00
IM FUND MANAGERS 28, Queen Street London EC4 1DN Tel: 01-236 4216				
Bray/Oseas	173.2	183.2	-0.2	1.61
Inc Plus	82.46	87.25	-0.22	3.44
Cap Gth	85.72	90.70	+0.07	3.40
Invest Trst	117.6	134.4	+0.3	0.75
KEY FUND MANAGERS 36, Fountain Street Manchester M2 2AF Tel: 061 236 5362				
Equity/Gen	61.46	65.38	-0.10	1.43
Gt/Fxd Interest	69.16	73.19	-0.01	8.04
Higher Inc	145.6	154.36	-0.6	4.98
Income	90.91	97.23	-0.12	3.30
Intl	81.39	87.51	-0.02	0.22
Smlr Cos	58.20	62.25	+0.21	0.66
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch St London EC3 Tel: 01-623 8000 Dealings: 0635 839625				
Income Trusts				
Extra Inc	51.22	54.49	-0.06	5.63
Do Acc	56.12	59.70	-0.07	5.63
Gilt Yield Inc	104.4	110.2	+0.2	9.52
Do Acc	226.9	241.7	+0.5	9.52
Global Inc	171.6	182.8	-1.9	3.67
Do Acc	323.5	344.1	-3.5	3.67
High Yield Inc	122.1	129.9	-0.2	4.79
Do Acc	279.3	297.1	-0.6	4.79
Capital Growth Trusts				
Am Smlr Co	64.2	68.8	-0.9	0.00
Do Acc	66.16	70.38	-0.91	0.00
N Amer	62.03	65.98	-1.27	1.28
Do Acc	74.43	79.18	-1.53	1.28
Euro Inc	123.6	131.1	-0.8	1.45
Do Acc	156.3	165.9	-0.9	1.45
Euro Spec Inc	93.21	98.91	-0.77	1.22
Do Acc	94.57	100.4	-0.78	1.22
FO Invest Trst	38.97	39.82	-0.01	2.37
Do Acc	39.39	41.90	-0.03	2.37
Genrl Inc	241.1	256.5	-4.0	2.95
Do Acc	351.7	374.1	-5.8	2.95
Intl Recov	149.8	159.1	..	1.28
Do Acc	164.2	174.7	-0.1	1.28
Jap Inc	513.8	544.3	-3.2	0.00
Do Acc	519.5	550.9	-3.3	0.00
Jap Spec	231.7	245.9	-1.2	0.00
Do Acc	232.8	247.1	-1.1	0.00
Master Acc	206.2	219.3	-2.1	1.81
Pacific Inc	237.5	252.7	-2.0	0.34
Do Acc	272.3	289.7	-2.3	0.34
Smlr Cos Inc	107.9	114.8	..	1.81
Do Acc	134.4	143.0	..	1.81
UK Equity Gth	33.38	35.51	-0.13	1.59
Do Acc	57.05	60.69	-0.21	1.59
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 93, George Street, Edinburgh Tel: 031-225 4665				
European	58.05	61.73	..	0.00
Extra Inc	22.61	24.21	..	7.15
Far East	27.02	28.74	..	0.00
Income/Gth	59.29	63.07	..	5.59
Intl Gth	42.87	45.61	..	2.29
Japan	67.12	71.40	..	0.00
N Am Equity	29.85	31.79	..	0.50
UK Equity	65.93	70.14	..	2.90
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5, Rayleigh Road, Brentwood Essex Tel: Enquiries: 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 261010				
Equity Dist	350.8	373.2	-1.5	3.54
Do Acc	598.2	636.4	-2.6	3.54
Do Inc	84.06	89.45	-0.05	5.53
European	89.47	95.15	-0.56	0.01
Far East	174.6	185.7	-1.8	0.01
Fixed Interest	43.56	45.47	+0.32	8.41
Gilt	79.65	84.93	+0.45	8.15
Global Gth	62.25	66.22	-0.56	6.12
Intl Bond	47.77	50.76	+0.02	5.10
Japanese	81.18	86.36	-1.01	0.81
O'seas Equity	105.5	112.2	-1.0	0.81
Natrl Res	112.8	120.0	-0.8	2.28
N Amer	96.61	102.8	-1.28	1.41
UK Recov	55.60	59.15	-0.05	3.43
UK Spec Sits	93.01	98.95	-1.00	2.71

UNLISTED SECURITIES

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

THIRD MARKET

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 86.6 (day's range 86.6-86.8).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for December 19

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.6015-1.6065	1.6015-1.6025	0.87-0.86pr	2.49-2.47pr
Montrl	1.8561-1.8665	1.8561-1.8597	0.46-0.40pr	0.90-0.80pr
Amstrdm	3.1333-3.1433	3.1333-3.1369	1¼-1⅛pr	4⅜-4¼pr
Brussels	58.20-58.56	58.20-58.40	29-23pr	74-84pr
Copnhgn	10.7789-10.8272	10.7789-10.8017	2⅞-2½pr	7⅝-6⅞pr
Dublin	1.0509-1.0548	1.0515-1.0525	36-33pr	91-81pr
Frankft	2.7743-2.4836	2.7743-2.7776	1¼-1⅛pr	4½-4⅜pr
Lisbon	243.03-244.59	243.03-243.98	187-269ds	393-574ds
Madrid	178.46-179.50	178.57-179.08	11-17ds	37-47ds
Milan	2063.53-2075.44	2064.33-2067.23	4-2pr	10-8pr
Oslo	10.6956-10.7476	10.6956-10.7183	2⅝-1⅝pr	6⅝-6⅛pr
Paris	9.4737-9.5046	9.4758-9.4892	3⅝-3⅜pr	9⅝-8⅞pr
Stckhlm	10.0414-10.0926	10.0414-10.0637	2⅝-2⅛pr	6⅝-5⅞pr
Tokyo	230.14-231.17	230.14-230.44	1⅞-1⅝pr	4⅞-4½pr
Vienna	19.51-19.58	19.51-19.54	8⅝-6⅞pr	29⅝-24⅝pr
Zurich	2.4903-2.4961	2.4935-2.4967	1⅛-1⅛pr	4-3⅝pr

Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	1593.39-1607.91
Australia dollar	2.0398-2.0438
Bahrain dinar	0.6015-0.6095
Brazil cruzado*	15.2789-15.3607
Cyprus pound	255.15-258.35
Finland marka	6.544-6.611
Greece drachma	255.15-258.35
Hong Kong dollar	12.4989-12.5084
India rupee	27.02-27.32
Kuwait dinar KD	0.470-0.476
Malaysia ringgit	4.3195-4.3255
Mexico peso	4260-4360
New Zealand dollar	2.6912-2.7021
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9615-6.0635
Singapore dollar	3.0504-3.0572
S Africa rand (fin)	6.0415-6.1616
S Africa rand (com)	4.0993-4.1067
U A E dirham	5.865-5.935

*Lloyds Bank. Rates supplied by Extel and Barclays Bank GTS

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.5215-1.5230	Denmark	6.7310-6.7360	Italy	1288.5-1290.5
Singapore	1.9050-1.9060	W Germany	1.7305-1.7315	Belgium (Com)	36.37-36.41
Malaysia	2.6975-2.6995	Switzerland	1.5530-1.5540	Hong Kong	7.8055-7.8065
Australia	1.2738-1.2755	Netherlands	1.9545-1.9560	Portugal	152.00-152.30
Canada	1.1595-1.1605	France	5.9100-5.9150	Spain	111.65-111.75
Sweden	6.2730-6.2780	Japan	143.85-143.95	Austria	12.19-12.20
Norway	6.6800-6.6850				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank GTS and Extel.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %: Clearing Banks 15 Finance Hse 15½
Discount Market Loans %
Overnight High: 15¾ Low 15 Week fixed: 15
Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying: 2 mth – 14$^{11}/_{16}$ 3 mth – 14⅝
Selling: 2 mth – 14⅝ 3 mth – 14$^{7}/_{16}$
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %): 1 mth: 14$^{29}/_{32}$-14⅞
2 mth: 14$^{23}/_{32}$-14⅞ 3 mth: 14$^{17}/_{32}$-14⅝ 6 mth 13$^{15}/_{16}$-⅞
Trade Bills (Discount %): 1 mth: 15$^{13}/_{32}$
2 mth: 15$^{11}/_{32}$ 3 mth: 15$^{9}/_{32}$ 6 mth 14$^{9}/_{16}$
Interbank (%). Overnight: open 15¾ close 16
1 week: 15⅛-15 1 mth: 15⅛-15$^{3}/_{32}$ 3 mth: 15$^{3}/_{16}$-$^{1}/_{16}$
6 mth: 15-14⅞ 9 mth: 14$^{13}/_{16}$-14⅞ 12 mth: 14⅝-14$^{9}/_{16}$
Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 day: 14⅞ 7 day: 14⅞ 1 mth: 15
3 mth: 15 6 mth: 14⅞ 12 mth: 14$^{9}/_{16}$
Sterling CDs (%): 1 mth: 15$^{3}/_{32}$-15$^{1}/_{32}$
3 mth: 15$^{3}/_{32}$-$^{1}/_{32}$ 6 mth: 14⅞-14⅞ 12 mth 14½-14⅜
Dollar CDs (%): 1 mth: 8.83-8.78
3 mth: 8.57-8.52 6 mth: 8.29-8.24 12 mth 8.15-8.10
Building Society CDs (%)
1 mth: 15⅛-15$^{1}/_{16}$ 2 mth: 15⅛-15$^{1}/_{16}$ 3 mth: 15⅛-15$^{1}/_{16}$
6 mth: 14$^{15}/_{16}$-14⅞ 9 mth: 14⅞-14⅞ 12 mth: 14$^{9}/_{16}$-$^{7}/_{16}$

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Oct 31, 1989. Agreed rates Nov 28, 1989 to Dec 25, 1989. Scheme I: 15.66 per cent. Schemes II & III: 16.22 per cent. Reference rate Sept 30, 1989 to Oct 31, 1989. Scheme IV & V: 15.064 per cent.

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
Dollar:	8$^{9}/_{16}$-8$^{5}/_{16}$	8⅞-8⅞	8$^{9}/_{16}$-8$^{7}/_{16}$	8$^{5}/_{16}$-8$^{3}/_{16}$
Call: 8½-7½				
Deutschemark:	7$^{15}/_{16}$-$^{13}/_{16}$	8$^{3}/_{16}$-8$^{1}/_{16}$	8⅜-8⅜	8$^{5}/_{16}$-8$^{3}/_{16}$
Call: 7½-6½				
French Franc:	10$^{15}/_{16}$-⅞	10$^{13}/_{16}$-⅞	11-10⅞	11-10⅞
Call: 10-9				
Swiss Franc:	8½-8⅜	8$^{11}/_{16}$-$^{9}/_{16}$	8⅞-8⅞	8$^{5}/_{16}$-8$^{3}/_{16}$
Call: 7½-6½				
Yen:	6⅞-6½	7-6⅞	6$^{15}/_{16}$-$^{13}/_{16}$	6⅞-6⅞
Call: 6-5				

GOLD BULLION (Per ounce)

Open: $413.75-414.25 Close: $414.00-414.50
High: $414.50-415.00 Low: $411.00-411.50

GOLD COINS (Per coin, Ex VAT)

Britannia: $423.00-428.00 (£264.00-267.00)
Krugerrand: $413.00-417.00 (£257.50-259.50)
Mapleleaf (1/10oz): $423.00-428.00 (£264.00-267.00)
American Eagles: $423.00-428.00 (£264.00-267.00)
New Sovereigns: $97.00-99.00 (£60.00-61.50)
Old Sovereigns: $97.00-99.00 (£60.00-61.50)

PRECIOUS METALS

Platinum pm fix: $508.15 (£316.80)
Palladium pm fix: $136.75 (£85.25)
Spot Silver: $5.57-5.59 (£3.475-3.490)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
FT-SE 100			Previous open interest 32435		
Dec 89	2390.0	2393.0	2338.0	2344.06298	
Mar 90	2404.0	2410.0	2368.0	2392.04783	
Three Month Sterling			Previous open interest 149537		
Dec 89	84.89	84.89	84.87	84.892587	
Mar 90	85.60	85.64	85.59	85.616475	
Three Month Eurodollar			Previous open interest 28269		
Mar 90	92.18	92.19	92.14	92.173668	
Jun 90	92.38	92.38	92.36	92.36472	
Three Month Euro DM			Previous open interest 21164		
Mar 90	91.88	91.88	91.77	91.802921	
Jun 90	91.98	91.98	91.90	91.91407	

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three month ECU			Previous open interest 878		
Mar 90	89.16	89.19	89.14	89.15391	
Jun 90	89.53	89.53	89.52	89.5270	
US Treasury Bond			Previous open interest 2601		
Dec 89	100-04	100-05	100-01	100-04427	
Long Gilt			Previous open interest 34641		
Mar 90	92-23	92-28	92-21	92-247559	
Japanese Govt Bond			Previous open interest 737		
Mar 90	103.50	103.55	103.40	103.44501	
German Govt Bond			Previous open interest 28319		
Mar 90	91.87	91.88	91.53	91.6219015	
Jun 90	92.00	92.01	92.00	91.7925	

COMMODITIES

ICIS-LOR Group

Brent crude oil was up on WTI strength as yesterday was the last day of January WTI trading. Uncertainty prevailed in a quiet market with all products easing in line with the futures, except low sulphur fuel and jet fuel which firmed.

CRUDE OILS/assessed ($/BBL FOB)

Brent Phys	20.25	+30
15 day Jan	20.20	+30
15 day Feb	19.80	+20
WTI Jan	22.60	+100
WTI Feb	21.40	+85

PRODUCTS Buy/sell $/MT. Spot CIF NW Euro - prompt delivery

Prem Gas .15		195-197	
Gasoil EEC	-3	219-221	-3
Non 1H Jan	-3	213-215	-2
Non 1H Feb	+1	199-200	+1
3.5 Fuel Oil	-3	109-111	-3
Naphtha		170-172	

BIFFEX
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)
Dec 89 Hi — Low Close 1601
Jan 90 Hi 1648-1632 Low Close 1641
Apr 90 Hi 1665-1651 Low Close 1660
Jul 90 Hi 1400-1400 Low Close 1402
Vol 161 lots Open Interest 5426
Dry cargo Index 1596.0 down 7.0

IPE FUTURES
GAS OIL AMT Futures
Jan 209.00-08.75
Feb 194.25-93.75
Mar 180.00-79.75
Apr 171.25-70.75
May 167.00-66.00
Jun 162.75-61.00
Jul 162.50-62.00
Vol 7910
BRENT AMT Futures
Feb 19.56-19.55
Mar 19.07 SLR
Vol 6344

LONDON POTATO FUTURES (£/tonne)

Mth	Open	Close
Feb	149.5	147.0
Apr	209.5	209.5
May	233.5	234.0
Nov	102.5	102.5

Vol 47

LONDON FOX
COCOA AMT Futures
Dec 645-643 Sep 674-678
Mar 632-631 Dec 687-686
May 642-641 Mar 717-715
Jul 657-658 Vol 6868
COFFEE AMT Futures
Jan 645-643 Sep 697-694
Mar 642-640 Nov 714-708
May 657-655 Jan 734-725
Jul 676-674 Vol 5643
SUGAR C Czarnikow
FOB Vol: 1463
Mar 300.6-00.4 Oct 291.6-91.4
May 301.0-00.6 Dec 289.0-81.0
Aug 297.8-97.6 Mar 277.6-76.6

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
WHEAT close (£/t) Vol 279
Ja 112.80 Mr 116.50 My 119.95
Jn 121.80 Sp 108.25 Nv 109.60
BARLEY close (£/t) Vol 144
Ja 110.25 Mr 112.80 My 114.50
Sp 103.80 Nv 106.60 Ja 109.60
SOYABEAN AMT Futures
Feb 142.0-41.5 Aug 138.0-38.0
Apr 141.5-41.0 Oct 140.0-37.0
Jun 139.0-37.5 Dec 143.0-38.0
Vol 25

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Official prices/volume previous day — Rudolf Wolff

(£/tonne)	Cash	3 month	Vol	Tone
Copper Gde A	1474.5-1475.5	1482.0-1483.0	671925	Steady
Lead	420.50-421.00	421.50-422.00	115475	Easier
Zinc Hi Gde*	1400.0-1410.0	1325.0-1330.0	21125	Quiet
Zinc Spec Hi*	1501.0-1503.0	1355.0-1360.0	137525	Easier
Tin*	6920-6930	7050-7070	7110	Steady
Aluminium Hi*	1580.0-1581.0	1589.0-1590.0	584100	Easier
Nickel*	9400-9500	8475-8500	14298	Irregular

† (Cents per Troy oz). * ($ per tonne)

LONDON MEAT FUTURES (£/kg)
Live Pig Contract

Mth	Open	Close
Feb	108.0	108.0
Apr	108.3	108.3
Jun	108.5	108.5
Aug	108.5	108.0

Live Cattle Contract

Jan	118.3	118.3
Feb	117.0	117.0
Apr	118.8	118.8

Vol Pig-19 Cattle-0

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Av'ge fatstock prices at representative markets on December 19

(/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB (p)	81.05	203.06	111.56
GB (+/-)	-4.64	+1.11	-3.04
Eng/Wal (%)	-61.5	-38.0	-84.2
Eng/Wal (p)	79.83	203.62	109.76
Eng/Wal (+/-)	-5.34	+0.54	-3.02
Scotland (%)	-50.8	-39.2	-59.1
Scotland (p)	88.64	201.60	114.95
Scotland (+/-)	-1.19	+2.59	-3.58

* Estimated dead carcase weight

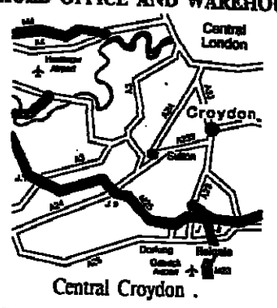
01-481 4000 PRIVATE (ADVERTISERS)

PROPERTY BUYERS' GUIDE

01-481 1986 TRADE (ADVERTISERS)

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

PRIVATE SALE OF THE CENTURY FREEHOLD OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE



Central Croydon .

10th largest City in UK.

Near to M25, M23, 40 minutes from coast, 20 minutes from Central London.

Newly refurbished office 2 storey to include newly fitted office furniture. Considerable loft area suitable for conversion. New Gas central heating, wiring and plumbing. 7,172 sq ft. Single storey warehouse. 3 phase power, fluorescent strip lighting, oil fired boiler, new drainage system, 2 WC's, eaves height 14-18 ft.
8,413 sq ft plus additional external areas 2,226 sq ft.

£945,000 ono.
May Consider individual sales.

Contact N.Butcher or A.Dobinson in complete confidence on 01 760 0760

MOVING NORTH?

PROPERTY PORTFOLIO FOR SALE

Lease possibility to Blue chip company for items 1 - 3 or will split

MANCHESTER

ITEM 1/ Large city centre building (Unlisted) on main thoroughfare in area of University and Fast developing residential/shoping facilities. Approx 27,000 sq ft. Retail/office/warehouse/light industrial. Ideal for development or refurbishment. Vacant posession on completion.

ITEM 2/ Plot of land adjacent, parking for 20 cars.

ITEM 3/ Large converted farm house in top residential area, luxury domestic accomidation but with commercial use option. 10 Mins Manchester international airport, Heathrow 45 Mins, BR Euston 2½ hrs.

ITEM 4/ 1/ Building plot with outline planning permission in grounds of Item 3.
2/ Building plot opp in ground of Item 3.

PRINCIPALS ONLY
Reply to BOX F82

EX TESCO

supermarket purupose built approx 18 yrs, briefly over 8,000 sq ft. 9R/1st floor. goods lift, loading bay, parking, offices, M/F WCS, canteen. PROMINENTLY situates on major dual carriagway (Ring RD) in plain sight of End/Start of M62 motorway. 80 ft showroom windows frontage. suit practically any trade or business imaginable. Absolute bargain £195,000 freehold of will lease.

TEL: (051) 428 6243 or (0831) 459800.

Owner of an attractive industrial/ B1/B2/B8 development site in south Midlands seeks investing partner for 300,000 sq ft scheme with planning consent.

Clean semi rural site with easy access to M1 and M40.

Reply to BOX F95

140 Camden Street, NW1

5,750 sq.ft. Office Suite

Fully refurbished Canal-side

Last remaining Open plan

C.H., Alarm, Carpets



Phone: 01-267 9425

CAMDEN PASSAGE, ISLINGTON, N1

Superb ground floor shop unit prime location in the world famous Antiques Market. 8½ years lease remaining. Current rent: £7,350 per annum. Features include burglar alarm, security grilles, spotlights, fitted carpet, excellent decorations. Price: £82,500 for the benefit of the lease.

ALL ENQUIRIES RING SOLE AGENTS: EVANS BAKER - 226 3036/354 0066.

W14 FREEHOLD

Ground floor offices approximately 900 square feet. Excellent condition.

£225,000 or may let.

01 229 6109

600 SQ FT OFFICE/ STUDIO SPACE

PLUS 2 Bed duplex apartment

Total 1,300 sq.ft 2 miles east of City. To let.

Ring 01 537 4212

WANTED

American company seeking quality office space for one to two years - approximately 2,500 sq ft in Richmond, Windsor or surrounding areas.

TEL: Mr Wright. 01-499 8000.

18 Hole Golf Course

1 mile off the M.25 on the Herts/Bucks/borders and on the underground Bakerloo Line. Full planning to include 10,000 sq.ft. of Clubhouse and Buildings.

Offers invited.

Tel: 0344 882245 0628 29839

COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL.

25 new bedrooms with ensuite.
130 seater new restaurant.
2 large lounge bars.
10 acre site.
Substantial high turnover near Ascot, Bracknell and Windsor.
Offer in excess 3.65 million.

TEL: (0344) 882245.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Industrial/B1.
Park Royal, NW10.
From £124,500.

Sapcotes 021 2331200

HATTON GARDEN. AREA TO LET.

Office light industrial 500 sq ft at £15 per sq ft. Well fit and convenient to Chancery Lane and Farringdon Stations. In modern building with entry phone, on site caretaker. Bargain space available at £6.50 per day.

TEL: 01-404 0083.

MAJORCA

Puerto Pollensa apartholet - 116 studio apartments - capacity 464 beds - restaurant - cafeteria - supermarket - 6 shops - 2 swimming pools - 4000m² gardens and terraces - 60m from beach - Constructed: 1988 - Constructed area: 6,100m².

INMOBILIARIA PUJADAS
Tel: 010-34-71503754

HARLEY ST

Medical/Residential Building

2790 sq.ft. over three floors, flat accomodation on 2nd, 3rd & 4th floor. Medical accommodation £970,000. Each flat £210,000. All available on long leasehold.

01 486 3531

CRICKLEWOOD BROADWAY NW2

24,000 sq ft approx warehouse/workshop space inc. 2,500 sq ft offices. Move in today. £115,000pa NEG. 6 months renewable licence. Atlas Management

Tel: 01 372 6464

THE TIMES

Commercial Property

appears every Wednesday

To place your advertisement telephone

Andrew Ogier or Tania Thurgood on: 01 481 1986

LONDON PROPERTY

MORTGAGES AT ONLY 12.45% APR 13.7%

plus low start option
with no early redemption penalties

Churchill Associates

PREMIER HOUSE, 112 STATION ROAD, EDGWARE, MIDDX HA8 7AQ

01 952 0990

LICENSED CREDIT BROKERS

How to move fast & cut out the chain...



How long have you been on the market?
Now there's a modern way to move with no delays! With THE PROPERTY EXCHANGE DIRECTORY, you can exchange your house or flat for your ideal home - whether you're moving up or down the property ladder. By exchanging your property, you'll save a lot more than time. You'll save money too, with...

- NO ESTATE AGENTS FEES
- NO CHAIN ... NO STRESS
- MINIMAL STAMP DUTY

Call us today on Brighton 608311
for a free fact sheet, it's a great way to move into the nineties!

THE PROPERTY EXCHANGE DIRECTORY

PREMIER HOUSE, 11 MARLBOROUGH PLACE, BRIGHTON BN1 1UB
TEL: (0273) 608311 TELEX: 878268 FAX: (0273) 609040

McMANUS DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED

HARTSWOOD GARDENS LONDON W12

Self contained development of 3 town houses consisting of

- 4 bedrooms
- 2/3 bathrooms
- 2/3 reception rooms
- Luxury fitted kitchen with all appliances
- Utility room with appliances
- Garages & additional parking

10 year NHBC

Landscaped front gardens
Large rear gardens
Private drive
Tube station 5 mins walk

Prices from £290,000

Tel: (0296) 681810
(24 hr answering service)



Whether you are moving house or relocating with your company why not advertise your house for sale privately through

The Property Register

For further details call 0753 682092 or fax 0753 40990

Computerised matching of people and properties.

5 EGERTON GARDENS KNIGHTSBRIDGE SW3

An exceptional new development facing the Crescent.
GROUND FLOOR: 2 rooms, kit/breakfast room, bath/WC, DIRECT GARDEN ACCESS. Price £265,000.
2ND FLOOR: Small studio flat. price £75,000.
3RD FLOOR: 'L' reception, kit, dble bed, bath/WC. VERY LARGE TERRACE. Price £225,000.
4TH FLOOR: Recep, kit, 2 beds, bath/WC. Price £195,000.
LEASES 65 YEARS

W. A. ELLIS 01-581 7854
174 BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON SW3 1HP

NORTH OF THE THAMES

BARBICAN EC2

Studio flat only £69,950.
1 bed penthouse £119,000.
1 bed penthouse maisonette & car space £128,000.

STOCK PAGE & STOCK 01 251 4171

Private sale

PETERBOROUGH ESTATE PARSONS GREEN SW6

Interior designed family house with exceptional entertaining space 26' recep. 18'x13' kitchen/bkfst rm. opening 18'x12' conservatory, study, 4 beds, 2 baths, cloak. Sunny 25' garden. Huge cellar (conversion immediate site required. Valued at £400,000 but £375,000 secures

01 736 5400

BAYSWATER W2 3 bed. 2 bath. mews house. 1100 sq. ft. plus possible roof terrace. £225,000 private sale. Tel: 01-221 4995

FULHAM SW6, 4 bed. 3 storey freehold house in attractive street. Close to all amenities. retains many original features. £158,000. Tel; 01-785 4828.

FULHAM SW6 1 bed patio grd flr flat, fully mod. large kit / diner. CCH, quiet st. close Fulham B'dway £87,000. 01 386 7495.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SW3 - Spacious 2 bed. 2 bath flat. 50 yds from Harrods. 63 yr lease. low service charge. 24 hr portierage. Due to aborted sale - back on market. Urgent sale required. Only £175K. Tel: 01-823 5937.

Quraishi Constantine

W8 EXCELLENT LOCATION with parking avail 2 beds, large kitchen, recep & loft. Now £122,500
LOWER WEBBER over Kensington, 2 beds, 2 recps in quiet block, porter & parking avail. Furnished if req'd. £250,000
NORTH STREET interior designer's own spectacular 4 appr. 1 dble bed flat with s facing roof terr. V high ceilings, beech floors, 22' recep, kit, lot, marble bathroom. 2 years lease £125,000
COURTFIELD GDNS SW5 Outstanding lux designed 2 dble bed 3rd floor flat. 65sq w facing 21' recep with sep area, lux kit, use of gdns. 50 yrs. Reduced £10,000 to £169,500
EARL'S COURT SQ SW5 Superb 2 dble bed 1st floor lux flat with galleried 18' recep & sq views, lease period House 114 yrs reduced £30,000 to £170,500.

IF YOU CAN'T SELL WHY NOT LET YOUR PROPERTY.
CONTACT OUR LETTINGS DEPT ON
602-8737 OR 376-2566

CHELSEA & KENSINGTON

CITY & WEST END

MARBLE ARCH (5 mins walk)

1 bedroomed flat. long lease £86,500.

Unmodernized 2 bedroomed flat in PB block. Long lease. £97,500.

Unmodernized flat consisting of 6 rooms in PB block Long lease. £159,500.

For further details please call

Golden Key Estates on 01-723 7619

W1. Are you thinking of selling? Telephone James Salway & Co. The Marylebone Specialists for free valuations. 01 402 7383

W1. Flat List in W1. From £70,000 - £1.5 million. Tel: James Salway & Co. The Marylebone Specialists. 01 402 7383

W1. Superb brand new 1 bed conversion. lux f/f 1st flr. Must be seen. Lse 125 yrs £109,950. Tel J S & CO 402 7383

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

E DULWICH - Lovely 4 bed semi. 3 recps. GCH. 50 ft garden. carpets. no chain. £118,000. Tel: 01-732 0455

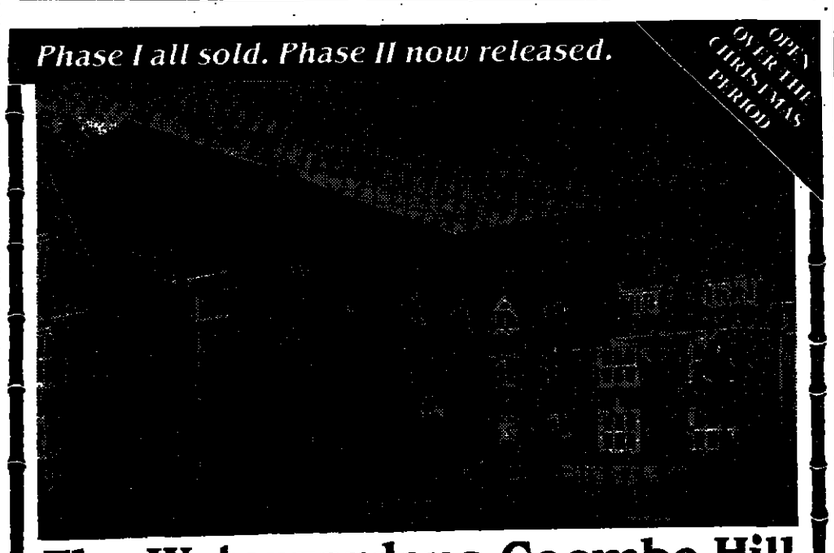
SUPERB OPPORTUNITY
Cheap Cheap Cheap

We have to sell our 3/4 bed end terrace and 1 bed flat in Kings Road. Over possess 5 mths Kings Road. Dble reception room, fitted kitchen (all appl) lux bathrm study, utility room, alarm, garage 40 sealed garden. Off street parking

Offers invited. Please call 01 228 2544.

GREENWICH PARK VISTA. A particularly quaint yet spacious double fronted Georgian residence consisting of 3-4 bedrooms, 20 ft reception lounge and further large lounge with excellent views over Royal Greenwich Park and its observatory. Sep dining room. 2 bathrooms. Must viewed immediately - Excellent value. Offers in excess of £260,000 for a positive sale. Tel James Johnston Property Agents for an immediate accompanied viewing on 01-858 9986 (Open 7 days).

COUNTRY PROPERTY



The Watergardens Coombe Hill



SPECIAL OFFER
Two professionally designed show apartments complete with all fixtures and fittings for immediate occupation £495,000 & £565,000 Leasehold

THE WATERGARDENS is a masterpiece of classical elegance and imaginative design created amidst the breathtaking beauty of 140 year old Japanese water-gardens in the heart of the prestigious Coombe Hill Estate in Kingston Vale, Surrey.
The spacious three bedroom apartments are traditionally built to the highest standards and offer an extensive level of specification throughout. Two underground car parking spaces are allocated per unit and included in the purchase price.
Security is discreet but highly sophisticated and there is a friendly janitor service provided seven days a week.
The development is ideally placed to take advantage of a whole host of transport, leisure and educational facilities.
To fully appreciate the superb standard of finish and beautiful environment visit our show apartment off Warren Road open 11–4 pm daily or telephone 01-547 1681 for further details.

Prices from £425,000 Leasehold.

OCTAGON DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED WEIR HOUSE HURST ROAD EAST MOLESEY SURREY 01-941 4131

OCTAGON



the LAURELS
WATER LANE, COBHAM, SURREY

UNSURPASSED QUALITY AND SOPHISTICATION

Octagon have established an excellent reputation for building quality homes for the discerning buyer in superb locations. The Laurels is no exception. There are just three individually designed five bedroom, three bathroom houses situated in a private secluded setting in one of Cobham's premier residential areas.

The town centre is close by and the local station within easy walking distance (Waterloo 40 mins). Each of these impressive properties is highly specified and built to exacting standards. To fully appreciate why our houses are so special visit our fully furnished showhouse open every day from 11am-4pm or telephone 0932 62927 for further details.

Prices from £725,000 freehold

OCTAGON DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED WEIR HOUSE HURST ROAD EAST MOLESEY SURREY 01-941 4131

OCTAGON

HOUSES URGENTLY WANTED

AT ALL PRICES FROM £20,000 TO £500,000 FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY EXCHANGE

Our huge list of Property Owners, nationwide, who are eager to exchange, contains; Country cottages, modern flats, spacious detached, semi's and terraced, houses and bungalows

AS FEATURED ON BBC "DAY TIME LIVE", 7th DECEMBER

NATIONAL PROPERTY EXCHANGE
0705-754985 Or write to NPE', PO BOX 172, Southsea, Hants PO4 9BN
NPE' is not an Estate Agency

Seekers

NATIONAL PROPERTY SALE

1,000's of homes at reduced prices, areas ranging from West Midlands, Wales, Kent, London, Sussex, West Country, Hampshire, Essex & Surrey for phone *number of your local office* please call now

01-202-7882

SUSSEX

GATWICK / M23 10 mins. Unique lodge in peaceful location. Completely private. 3 bed. 2 bath. OFCH. Conservatory. dbl gge + studio flat. 1 acre mature grnds, inc. water gdn. & summer hse. No agents. Price guide £270,000 0293 83643.

WALES

MONMOUTH/CHEPTSTOW

In idyllic woodland setting 17C cottage with gardens & grounds extending to about 3 acres. 5 bedrms (1 en suite) 3 recaps. fitted kitchen. Guest suite with bedrm, bathrm & sauna, outdoor heated swimming pool. A first class country property within 7 miles of the M4 & Severn Bridge. Offers based on £325,000. Full details from: Cornerstone, Monmouth.

Tel: (0600) 2916.

SURREY

SURREY/HAMPSHIRE

Private property swap and part exchange.

The only logical choice on the market.
No registration fee.
Register today with other like minded possible people. We will make your move happen.

SURREAL ESTATE
0860 284938
0252 715573
9am - 8pm 7 days

CAMBERLEY Heath golf course. 5 beds. Exec house of great character. 3 yrs old. Views over 5, 6 and 7th fairways. Fully furnished. £299,000. Tel: (02764) 20102

CRANNETT Crown Estate. Luxury house awaiting completion. 5,000 square feet. Set in secluded ¾ of an acre south backing plot. Finishes to choice. £850,000 Freehold. Tel (0372) 842252.

TWICKENHAM. Luxury Ground floor maisonette. 2 bed. marble continental bathroom. fully fitted kitchen with all mod cons. Suit a Prof couple. 5 mins BR. 20 mins Waterloo or Heathrow. £115,000. 01 992 5684.

ABERGAVENNY.

Peaceful setting near fine riding country in Black Mountains & Llanthony Valley. Extremely spacious country residence. 4 receptions, 9 bedrooms. Gardens, swimming pool. 9 acres pasture, small stretch trout fishing. All - weather riding arena.

£325,000 ono.

NIGEL WARD & MORRIS- (0981) 240140

WILTSHIRE

BEAUTIFUL DETACHED COTSWOLDS STONE BARN

with full planning permission for conversion into 5 bedroom dwelling. Set in 5 acres of land with exceptional views over open countryside. Situated 8 miles from Swindon centre. 6 miles from Junction 16 of the M4. For sale as a whole

£170,000.
Tel: (0249) 75462.

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

SUN INTERNATIONAL INVITES YOU TO LIVE & WORK IN FLORIDA

We are a British/American company specialising in the sale of all types of established Business and Investments which can be linked to residential visas. Call now on.

01 - 770 0072



SUN INTERNATIONAL
BUILDERS : REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS : COMMERCIAL : RESIDENTIAL : MANAGEMENT : FINANCING
CHESLYN HOUSE, CUDDINGTON WAY, CHEAM, SURREY SM2 2TA
Subject to prevailing exchange rate

OVERSEAS MORTGAGES

Full service for France, Spain, Portugal, Italy or Greece.
Property search, re-financing & offshore company purchase available.
For further details please contact Liam Leckie AIB (Scot) at:

Notcutt House
25 Church Road
Teddington
Middlesex TW11 8PF
Tel: 01-977 7772
Fax: 01-977 5170

THE SIR MORTGAGE COMPANY LTD
MORTGAGES (UK)

14,000 ACRES RESORT AND SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENT IN ALBERTA, CANADA.

ONLY 40 MILES WEST OF "WEST EDMONTON MALL" WHICH MALL IS STATED TO BE THE LARGEST COVERED SHOPPING CENTER IN THE WORLD.
ONE HOUR FROM EDMONTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND CLOSE TO A MAJOR LAKE
OFFERS IN EXCESS OF $320 PER ACRE.
FREEHOLD TITLES.

WYOCAN RESOURCES LTD
204 ACADEMY PLACE
11520 - 100 AVE
EDMONTON, ALBERTA,
CANADA T5K 0J7
FAX: (403) 488-1556 TEL: (403) 428-3223

BUCKS

TAPLOW Bucks.

An individual detached country house. Lounge 32' x 27'. 6 beds. Reception, study, dining 15' x 12', 3 baths (1 ensuite), fld kitchen, security system, utility, b/fastrm, htd swimming pool, hard tennis court, dble garage, outhouse, 1 acre of beautiful gardens.

Private sale.

Offers around £490,000.
Tel: 01-437 8255 daytime or (0628) 602048 eves.

DEVON & CORNWALL

CORNWALL OCEAN VIEWS

New detached property, construction detail to highest standard. Split level with beautiful ocean views across the Atlantic and Porth Bay from every room. 3 beds, 1 en suite, large kitchen/diner, large bathroom, lounge - real aspect, very spacious, balcony offering direct ocean views. Garage, quiet close, large garden. 2 minutes walk from beach.

Perfectly located business property. £140,000.

For details and appointment: Tel (0872) 222616.

NEWQUAY (3 miles)

Beautiful old warn Cornish Farmhouse

6 bedrooms, 2 receptions, CH, 33 acres grassland.

All facing south.

Offers £230,000

0637 880326

EAST ANGLIA

NORTH NORFOLK. Thornham New 4 bed det. chalk/brick hse. local golf/sailing/bird watching. OIRO £150,000. TEL: (0485) 70665.

ESSEX

LEIGH-ON-SEA Exceptional p/b g/floor flat. 2 double bed large lounge & kit. C.H. garage. garage. View over & private access to golf course. Superb at £79,850. Tel (07022) 73738.

OLD HARLOW Det early Edwardian cottage, close to countryside. 4/5 beds. 4 recess. Retains original cottage fireplaces. £248,000. 0279 35969.

HANTS., DORSET, AND I.O.W.

FLAT Ryde IOW. 2 bed. garage. panoramic solent view. centre of town £57,000. 01-909 1166.

OLD HAMBLE. Superb conversion. Views across Solent to Isle of Wight. 3 beds. lge rooms. Telephone for brochure. Private sale. No Chain. 5 mins walk all Marinas. O.I.R.O. £230,000. Tel (0703) 452734.

HEREFORDSHIRE, WORCS, & SHROP

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOUSE

Herefordshire

Immaculate. 5/6 bedrooms. 3 bathrooms. 4 reception rooms. Large integral utility. 4 acres of garden and pasture. Superb tennis court. Glorious views of Malvern Hills. £385,000.

Tel: (043279) 387 or (0905) 25786.

HERTFORDSHIRE

LORD Olivier's former family home. Large Edwardian Rectory, beautifully refurbished. £275,000. Tel: (0462) 673461

IRELAND

DANDON. County Cork. 7 day licensed premises. busy street. huge development potential. £55,000 for Quick Sale. Tel: 010 353 29 44457.

KENT

CONVERTED barn at Botolphs Bridge, West Hythe, Kent. A magnificent barn conversion house made period country home in the peaceful rural location and enjoy panoramic views over the surrounding countryside. 4 bedrooms, kitchen, dining room, lounge, cloakroom, bathroom with en-suite shower, detached annexe block with kitchen, utility room, guest suite (bedroom 5), workshop and dble garage. £295,000 for further details Tel. 022779 3117.

MIDLANDS

SILVERSTONE

15 MINS MILTON KEYNES BR

6 bed barn conv, ¼ acre, grdns, large kit/family rm, utd. dining, lounge 2 storey conservatory with spiral staircase & gallery to mast. bed en suite bath, dressing rm, 4 more beds, ground floor gst/ceiling room, bsd. kitchen & shower room. Suit bkfst/granny flat. £380,000. Phone dc

Tel: (0908) 663143 or (0327) 858288

RETFORD NOTTS - 4 bedroomed detached executive house. gch. superb ½ acre plot, individually architect designed. 90 minutes BR to London. (0777) 707628.

NORTH EAST

NEWCASTLE 15 min. beech & min. superb 2-3 bed exec. Det Bungalow, bath + 2 shr wcs, dble gge. Quiet cul sit. 3 yrs old yet bags of character. £110,000. Tel: 091-258 8346/ 257 1981.

SCOTLAND

ADVANCE NOTICE OF AN EXCLUSIVE NEW DEVELOPMENT

Commencing Spring 1990

15 only 3/4 bedroomed detached bungalows at Craigellie near Grantown on Spey. Inverness 37 miles. Aviemore 15 miles

This attractive development will offer excellent homes in an idyllic Speyside location. Additionally there will be the unique benefit of preferential rates for leasing on the mast by river Spey. At a considerably cheaper power in Cromdale every purchaser will have the opportunity to fish a 12 mile stretch of the Spey. Annual coaches:- Sea Trout 600-1,000; Salmon 400-800 This for an added membership fee of £35 plus £35 per annum. Deposits accepted from January 1990 onwards.

Prices for phase 1 £79,950 to £84,950

For further information telephone Stretton Property Developments 0458 72228.

ARGYLL

CAIRNBAAN, by LOCHGILPHEAD

4 Luxury Bungalows to be constructed in an area of outstanding scenic beauty close to the historic Crinan Canal.

Accommodation comprises:- Lounge/Dining room/3 bedrooms (one en-suite), Kitchen, Bathroom and Utility Room.

The houses will be black and white with slated roofs, and vertical emphasis, highly insulated, central heating, Spanis Kitchen and Vogue Bathroom fittings.

Price of each house is fixed at £80,000 but a discount of £2,500 (price £77,500) is available where Missives are conducted before 1.4.1990. Mortgage available subject to Status.

Tel. MacArthur Stewart & Co. (0546) 2424.

ARGYLL unique loch-side character property New 3 bed. 2 bath. cottage, traditionally built, of natural stone. Slate roof, exposed beams, oak floors. Much use of stone/wood internally Outstanding views. Mystic-yet Glasgow 1¼ hrs, Heathrow 2½ hrs. Perfect retirement home. Offers in excess of £120,000 Tel: (0496) 2408

SITUATED Opposite MuirDeig Golf Course 29 superb 2 bedroomed cottages from £45,000. Connor Malcolm Solicitors. 1 Inverleith Terrace, Edinburgh. Tel: 031 557 6666. Fax: 031 557 6661.

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

NOTICE TO READERS

Whilst we take reasonable precautions with all advertisements, readers are strongly advised to take professional advice before paying a deposit or entering into any commitments.

BALEARICS

PALMA Old Town. 3bed flat with terrace. Reduced to £98,000 for quick sale. 010-34 71 71 97 05.

CANARY ISLANDS

LANZAROTE Playa Blanca. 4 bed 2 bath villa - Scandinavian spec. Fully furn £120k. 0332 840320.

CYPRUS

CYPRUS Luxurious freehold villas & apts for sale on the beaches and hills of Cyprus. Reasonable prices, long term finance. Inspection flights, excellent telecom. Safety of investment, after sales service. Lordos Contracts. Box 1175, Limassol, Cyprus. Tel. 051-77977. Tlx. 5136. Fax 63143.

FRANCE

ALPINE APARTMENTS Agency French Alps chalets in Les Gets (Portes du Soleil) 1 hr Geneva from £56,000. Tel 05447 234

BLOIS - Loire Valley. 2 bdrm flat 10 mins rail, castle, cathedral. £75,000. G. Joly, 11 Bis rue de Souilly, 77410 Claye, France. Tel. 010-33-1-60 26 68 37

BRITTANY Normandy selection of properties. Finance avail. Free brochure. 01 435 7486.

LAKE GENEVA French Alps. a wide range of properties from £20,000. tPA 025126 4545

LA RESIDENCE - 18 offices in Normandy. Pas de Calais and Picardy. 0895 622090

DORDOGNE La Coquille 15 kms Thiviers pf owner sells 1982 house all conf. 124. 2 bdrms, dining rm, fireplace, kit, bthrm, WC, gge, lrg basement. 2,186m² land. all amens. FF560,000 ono Mr Rostoll. Rouse de Curiel, St Front les Fougeres. 24450 La Coquille. France .

MORTGAGES and Refinancing on French Property. Reduce interest Rates by 4%. Charles Hamer F.S. 01-879 8111

Continued on page 32

A flexible friend for Channel 3?

BROADCAST

Brian Wenham

The broadcasting debate is shot through with assumptions of bad faith, particularly with regard to the future of what we must now call Channel 3. Producers believe that few of the appointed contractors will have much enthusiasm for the programme side of the business, and that those who do will be prematurely beggared by the workings of the auction mechanism. They further believe that the new Independent Television Commission will be powerless to intervene to any good purpose.

But there is another way of reading the Broadcasting Bill, suggesting a Channel 3 more sinewy and resilient than what we have now. Much depends on the way the elasticity in the bill is stretched.

For a start, it is hard to see how the "quality hurdle" can have any real meaning until a price-tag is attached to it, region by region. If bidders are expected to pitch, and pitch high for the amount of revenue they would devote to programming, then within any company the programme director would be clearly seen to have equal billing, or better, with the sales director.

This would put some sort of block on any regime hoping simply to collect and run. A general commitment to put a lot of money on the screen will be thought half-hearted by such as the Campaign for Quality Television, which is already pressing for special treatment for virtually every programme-type. But that way lies scheduling arthritis. Provided there is a commitment to spend, and spend well, on programming, the general prescription that "as a whole the programmes are calculated to appeal to a wide variety of tastes and interests" should suffice. Certainly there is little point in strengthening the hand of programme directors with a healthy programme budget, only to see it whittled away by too-detailed obligations to particular programme-types.

Similarly, the new contractors need to be free to treat independent producers flexibly. Independents will no doubt want 25 per cent of every little programme pie, but contractors should point out that, just as certain independents build strength through specialization — in particular business communications, and comedy — so they too may need to specialize. If, for example, Anglia wished to sustain an emphasis on natural history and ecological programmes, it should be free to retain all such work in-house, and make up its 25 per cent independent share elsewhere.

Alarm will be raised that too much pre-planning snuffs out individual talent. Again, this is to mis-read the nature of scheduling pressures. Individual and rare talents force through on to the small screen, provided the budgetary monies are there. Indeed, from time to time, the medium can aspire to art, Frayn's *First and Last* being the most recent occasion. But such high moments cannot sustain a schedule day in, day out. For this, steady and reliable lines of supply are required, and within an overall plan.

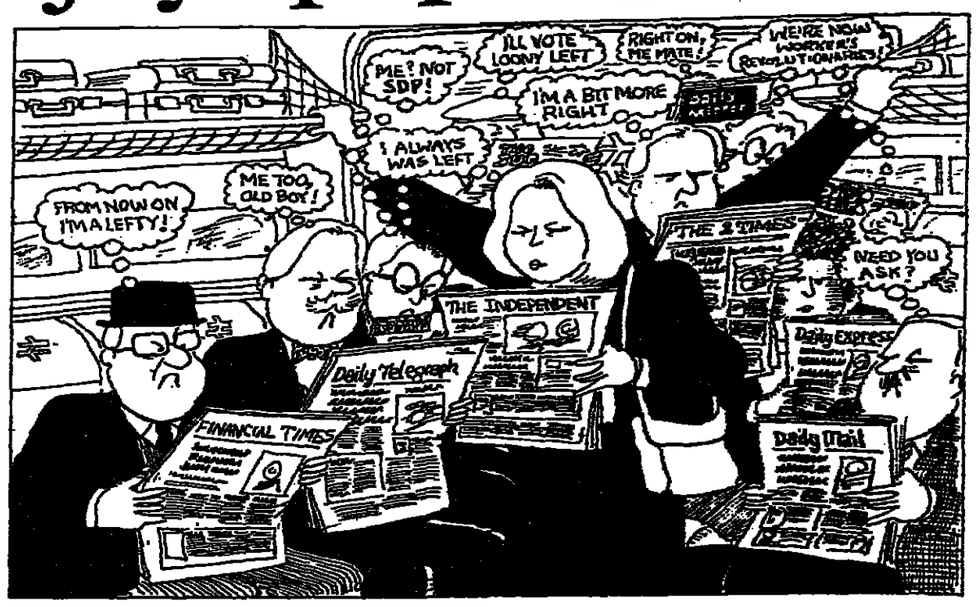
It is therefore inevitable that the ITC sets out the skeleton of the Channel 3 network, and in advance of bidding. Who is expected to contribute the bulk of network programmes, and what are the basic trading relationships between those who sustain the network, and those too small to make much of a contribution? There will be hurt involved in spelling this out, but a competitive future will require binding decisions taken swiftly. The ITC is unlikely to smile on luxuries such as the "flexipool" system that takes up much ITV executive time. Of course, such intervention in the workings of Channel 3 is hard to square with the notion of a commission operating with a "light touch". Light touch is not a happy term, standing too close to "soft touch" for comfort. What distinguishes the ITC from the IBA is its broader brush, with less involvement in day-to-day detail, but not inferior residual powers. Indeed, the bill gives the ITC formidable powers. To avoid ridicule, it is likely to use them.

There remain still the auction mechanism, and a freer mechanism for takeovers. Can these and a reliable Channel 3 system co-exist? The answer depends on the rigour of whatever system the ITC puts in place. A heavy commitment to programme-making is likely to deter many who see Channel 3 as a cash-cow, and encourage those who see better long-term business value in building a programme reputation; a firm quality veto at point of takeover could fend off implausible bidders.

Neither auction nor takeovers can shed their air of doctrinaire whimsy, but — if the new contracts are drawn clean and tight — they can yet be contained on the level of unsightly carbuncles, rather than spread as terminal cancers.

Left enjoys paper profits

A MORI poll shows a swing to Labour among readers of most newspapers. Michael Hoy looks at the source of the fresh support



An inevitable consequence of recent political trends is the change, or hardening, of attitudes among readers of national newspapers. Generally, readers' voting intentions have always mirrored the political line of their newspapers. Recent figures produced by Market and Opinion Research International suggest, however, that party tacticians may need to re-examine this concept.

The MORI figures compare voting intentions of national newspaper readers at the time of the last general election in 1987 to third-quarter reader preferences this year. Unsurprisingly, support has shifted dramatically in favour of the Labour Party.

The shift in voter affection is, however, not as much to the Tory cost as might at first be expected. In fact, with a few dramatic exceptions, most newspaper readers who voted Tory at the last election would do so again should an election be held today. Not so those who supported the centre parties in 1987: reader backing has largely evaporated.

Conservative Central Office will, no doubt, be happy in the knowledge that the party's losses appear to be minimal. It should not be. The figures clearly show that floating voters, disenchanted though they may be with their parties of first choice, find nothing to attract them to Tory ranks.

Tory thinking may also be sobered by the surprising drop in loyalty from readers of newspapers generally considered to be Tory strongholds.

Among broadsheet newspapers, the steepest loss of Conservative support is from readers of the *Financial Times*. At the time of the election 76 per cent of *FT* readers voted Conservative. Today that figure would be 62 per cent. Labour support has jumped from 6 to 17 per cent.

The Daily Telegraph also shows a substantial drop in Tory support. Eighty per cent of *Telegraph* readers voted Conservative at the election; today that figure would be 69 per cent. Labour support has more than tripled from 5 per cent to 16.

The Times registered a small increase in reader support for the Tories. Fifty-eight per cent of our readers would vote Tory today compared with 56 per cent in 1987. That increase is sharply countered by a greater increase of reader interest in Labour. Today, 25 per cent of our readers would vote Labour, up from 12 per cent at the general election.

A more significant gain for Labour has been among readers of *The Independent*. In 1987, Labour and Conservative support registered 34 per cent each. Today 43 per cent of *Independent* readers would support Labour while the Government would get just 23 per cent.

Tory support among *The Guardian* readers has dropped further, from 22 per cent to 12. Labour has further increased its grip on this group of voters from 54 to 62 per cent.

Among tabloid newspapers, the *Daily Mail* was the only one to register an increase, albeit small, in Tory support. The *Daily Express* and *Daily Star* showed 18 and 19 per cent Labour increases respectively. Only 26 per cent of *Star* readers say they would vote Tory now, with 63 per cent going for Labour. The *Express* is almost the reverse case, with 63 for the Tories, 20 per cent for Labour. Sixty-seven per cent of *Daily Mail* readers would vote Tory, compared with 60 in 1987.

Today, News International's middle-market tabloid, provides further depressing news for supporters of Paddy Ashdown's Liberal Democrat and David Owen's Social Democrat parties. Tory figures remain at 43 per cent, but Labour support has jumped from 14 to 35 per cent.

The biggest boost for Labour is provided by readers of *The Sun*. At the election, 31 per cent of *The Sun's* massive audience said they intended to vote Labour. Today, that number has swelled to 47 per cent. Again, the increase has come at the expense of the centre parties. Tory support has remained constant at 41 per cent, a fact which will provide little solace for Kenneth Baker.

Unsurprisingly, Tory support among *Daily Mirror* readers remains low. Yet, here again, Labour registered a substantial gain, from 55 per cent in 1987 to 70 per cent today.

The voting pattern of the dailies is mirrored by the Sunday newspapers. The most notable Labour gains come from readers of *The Sunday Times* and the *News of the World*.

The number of Tory voters among *The Sunday Times* readers has dropped from 58 to 50 per cent. Labour support has increased from 15 to 27 per cent.

In 1987, the Tories held a 4 per cent lead over Labour among *News of the World* readers, 37 to 33. Today, the same 37 per cent would vote Tory, but Labour numbers have leapt to 52 per cent.

While the *Sunday Telegraph* retains a staunch Tory readership, here, too, Conservative support has subsided, from 78 per cent to 69. Labour voters have almost doubled from 9 to 16 per cent.

Both the *Sunday Express* and *The Mail on Sunday* have retained their high number of Tory supporters. Both, however, have registered big gains for Labour with increases of 14 and 9 per cent respectively.

Fewer would-be Tory voters now read the *Observer*. Conservative party supporters among its readers dropped from 28 to 15 per cent, while Labour increased nine points to 58 per cent.

Labour retains a firm hold on readers of Robert Maxwell's *Sunday Mirror* and *The People*. The *Sunday Mirror* readers demonstrate a Labour preference over Tory by 62 to 27 per cent; *The People* by 58 (up 12.5) to 31 per cent.

Calculated strictly on the basis of a Conservative to Labour swing, the figures substantially favour Labour on almost all titles.

The gains will undoubtedly be welcomed by the Labour Party. Nevertheless, Neil Kinnock is still faced with the problem of his party remaining dependent on support from readers of newspapers with editorial lines more in sympathy with Tory policies.

What the figures make abundantly clear, however, is that national newspaper readers are already indicating that the next general election will be a two-horse race.

● *The author is the Managing Editor of* The Times.

HEAD OF CREATIVE SERVICES

up to £34,500 p.a. (inc. London Allowance)

If you are an experienced design manager, who sets high creative standards, this is an opportunity to head up a wide variety of business centres within our Publicity Services Division and to establish a new role as the focal point for design expertise. Responsibilities will include sales promotion, advertising, corporate identity, publications, photography, exhibitions & displays, and audio visual services.

Applicants should have at least 10 years experience in various media, combining creative flair with a proven track record in management. While suitable qualifications will be an advantage (e.g. F.C.S.D., A.R.C.A), relevant expertise is essential. The successful candidate is likely to have a background within an advertising agency or with a design group, probably as Art Director.

The starting salary for this position will be up to £31,800 p.a., plus a non-pensionable London Allowance of £2,700 p.a. With performance-related pay there is the chance to aspire to a package of £41,000 p.a.

Benefits include 5 weeks' annual holiday, free 3 course lunches, an interest-free season ticket loan and an excellent contributory pension scheme. At this level of seniority it is possible to apply for a low-interest loan, based on a proportion of basic salary.

If you are interested in applying for this position, please telephone our Personnel Department on 01-934 5695 or write for an application form (quoting ref. SS028/T) to:

Shell UK Adminstrative Services (UASP/11),
Shell Centre, York Road, London SE1 7NA.

Closing date for return of application forms is 5th January 1990.

MARKETING SALES EXECUTIVE

Salary + Bonus Circa £25k + Car

READY FOR A CHALLENGE IN THE 90's?

If you are in your 20's, creative, self motivated and have a sales promotion or marketing background Source can offer you that challenge.

We are Europe's leading specialists in promotional sourcing, now recognised as the fastest growth area within the marketing mix. (This year alone, our success has earned us no less than 3 ISP and 1 Direct Marketing Awards).

Source is now entering a period of dramatic growth, if you want to join in and reap the rewards of our continuing success and can demonstrate the ability to turn your creative skills into great promotional ideas for our blue chip multinational clients ring Kate Holland now on Andover (0264) 56161.

Source

THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION

Public Relations Information Assistant

The Public Relations Department of The Scout Association requires a third member to provide PR support to this renowned Youth Movement.

The post will involve assisting with the running of major promotions, preparing copy of PR publications and press releases, maintaining circulation lists and distributing PR material and providing administrative support to the Department. The ability to write clear, concise copy is essential and photography and word-processing experience would be an advantage. This is an ideal opportunity for someone who seeks a varied start to a career in PR and who has an affinity with The Scout Movement.

Salary offered is circa £10,000 inclusive of inner London Weighting.

If interested please contact the Personnel Department, The Scout Association, Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate, London SW7 5JS or telephone 01 584 7030 for further information and an application form.

Scouts

Sutton Coldfield Observer

Winner of the A F N Award for best free newspaper of the year
requires a

JUNIOR REPORTER

for its ever expanding pagination
Only hard workers with flair, imagination and skill should apply

Send full CV to:
June Warner, Editor
Sutton Coldfield Observer
14B/14C Birmingham Road
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands B72 1QG

SALES/MARKETING MANAGEMENT

TRAINEE MANAGERS Age 20+ *Circa £12-20K*

An exciting opportunity for motivated ambitious individuals to join an Ind Promotions Co. with a Multi-Million £ turnover, at locations throughout the UK and 5 London branches.

Full Training provided, accelerated career progression into Management for proven high achievers.

Please send C.V. to:
THE SALES DIRECTOR
Frederick House
1 Frederick Close
London W2 2HD

Executive Editorial Assistant

Negotiable salary Competitive benefits package

An Executive Editorial Assistant is required to work in the London offices of the Editor-in-Chief at the inception of a major new European Medical publication. This is an exciting position which offers the prospect of assisting in the development of a new venture in European cancer of global significance.

The successful candidate will have excellent administrative and communication skills; a basic knowledge of science (eg. to the level of first degree) will be a strong advantage.

This is an important position, the Executive Editorial Assistant will have sufficient initiative to supervise the London office in the absence of the Editor-in-Chief and to liaise closely with 4 Editorial offices elsewhere in Europe. The successful applicant will be expected to deal with enquiries from authors, referees, and the Publisher with confidence.

Candidates should submit the application, including full curriculum vitae to the Confidential Reply Supervisor, Ref LS 433, Austin Knight Advertising UK Limited, Tricorn House, 51-53 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 8TP.

Applications will be forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Confidential Reply Supervisor.

Austin Knight

NEW ERA TELEVISION LIMITED

REQUIRE TO START WORK IN JANUARY:

EDITOR for "Living Now" a daily magazine programme. A highly imaginative, experienced and energetic person is needed to Edit this brand new programme. Successful applicants will have proven experience of managing a large production team and will be capable of working against tight deadlines and limited budgets.

DEPUTY EDITOR for "First Edition" a daily topical features magazine programme: the successful applicant must have extensive experience of T.V. journalism, preferably a newspaper background.

REPORTERS - three on screen Reporters required for "First Edition". The successful applicants will be self starters with an existing successful track record in either TV or print journalism.

ALL THE ABOVE POSTS ARE BASED IN LONDON AND WILL INVOLVE WORKING ANTI—SOCIAL HOURS. APPLY IN WRITING ONLY TO:

The Personnel Department,
New Era Television Limited,
Unit 24, 101 Farm Lane,
London SW6 1QJ

British Universities Film & Video Council

The British Universities Film & Video Council promotes the production, study and use of film, television and other media for higher education and research. The Council has a full-time staff of seven based in its Soho offices.

Assistant Director

We are seeking a new Assistant Director following the recent appointment of Murray Weston as Director of the Council. The person appointed will be an efficient administrator who has a practical knowledge of film, television and other media and their uses in higher education and research. He/she will be involved in many aspects of the Council's work but will have particular responsibility for: film and video distribution; work for the British Video History Trust (organised with BUFC a co-partner BBC TV); raising sponsorship and advertising support for commercial organisations; assisting with the production of printed publications. He/she will also be involved in helping to organise occasional conferences and courses.

The successful applicant is likely to be a graduate with previous media work experience and an interest in administration (as well as the practical aspects of the Council's activities). Salary in the range £14,166 - £17,580 (incremental scale, superannuated) - benefits include season ticket loan for travel and membership of the British Film Institute.

For further details and an application form contact:
British Universities Film & Video Council, 55 Greek Street, London W1V 5LR. Tel: 01 - 734 3687

BLOOMSBURY

Due to internal promotion, Bloomsbury Publishing is looking for an efficient, bright and energetic

Publicity Assistant

for busy Publicity Director. Excellent typing and organisational skills and enthusiasm for books are essential. One year's secretarial experience an advantage.

Salary appropriate to age and experience.
Please apply with CV to Sarah Beal, Publicity Director, Bloomsbury Publishing Limited, 2 Soho Square, London W1V 5DE, Tel 494 2111, Fax 434 0151.

RUN THE SHOW

Dynamic partnership require star secretary/PA to organise eventful partners and generally administer fast-growing marketing consultancy. Our clients are blue chip, our partners are well known industry gurus who are very busy. Applicants should be resourceful, well educated and presented, age 25+, WP experience essential. Salary fully competitive.

Ring Jeremy Stafford on
01-240 8691 - after 9.30am.

MEDIA & MARKETING

Unmuzzled press goes for the throat

East German editors are enjoying their new freedom. Ian Murray, in Berlin, reports

A couple of months ago, the courtesy copy of the *Berliner Zeitung* which hung each morning in a plastic bag on hotel doorknobs in East Berlin was likely to stay there all day. Essentially it was four tabloid pages of dense propaganda, humourless, mostly pictureless and largely unswerving in its loyalty to hardline communism.

The few reports from West Germany concentrated on unemployment and housing problems. It gave more regular space to what was happening in Vietnam than what was happening in the United States.

It was just slightly freer in its outlook than most of East Germany's 600-odd titles, almost all of which are the official organs of communist organizations.

These days, however, the wise hotel guest gets up early and collects his copy before it is stolen. It is essential reading for anyone who wants to know what is happening, and particularly about what is rotten in the state.

In the two months since the Press was relieved of the obligation to submit everything to the censor, the *Berliner Zeitung* has established a record for investigative journalism which must be the envy of papers in the West. If Erich Honecker, the disgraced former head of state, is now awaiting trial for corruption, it is thanks largely to the paper's revelations.

Its investigations have led to the arrest of former Politburo members and to the resignation of senior officials. It has forced the party organs to follow its lead and do some real probing for themselves.

Acting on a tip-off from a reader, the paper last month found out that substantial quantities of luxury goods were being shipped out of the Politburo's private compound at Wandlitz and off to a customs warehouse, with instructions to sell them for hard currency as quickly as possibly.

East Berlin journalists drove to Wandlitz and demanded to know what was happening from the official in charge of the compound's administration. He was so shattered by the grilling that he had a nervous breakdown and finished up in hospital. When Western journalists arrived a few days later, the head of security at Wandlitz said anxiously: "I do hope that you foreigners ask questions more politely than our local journalists."

The television network, too, has undergone a sea change. For years it had provided two largely unwatched channels, broadcasting concerts, sychophantic interviews, old black-and-white films and party-approved news bulletins. East Germans gratefully tuned in to Western television — a key reason for the discontent which led to the stampede for change.

Now television is into investigative journalism in a big way. Politicians are mercilessly questioned and exposed. East German television has become the fashionable channel to watch in West Berlin, and there are growing demands that it be fed into the cable for transmission nationwide in West Germany.

The *Berliner Zeitung* now regularly sells 450,000 copies, including a few which are shipped to the West. The editor believes he could sell at least 700,000 if he could get more advertising revenue to buy the newsprint.

Other East German newspapers are also finding a new market in the West, particularly *Neues Deutschland*, the Communist Party paper. Down the years it had become the boring but required reading of Western diplomats serving in East Germany, for its pages often gave the first hint of the way the leadership was thinking. That continues to be the case, but now it reveals the areas where reform is next likely to succeed.

Demonstrations against the government are now widely covered in the Press, although more coverage tends to be given to those who speak against reunification and for socialism.

The paper which might claim credit for first challenging the official line is *Der Morgen*, the organ of the small Liberal Party whose leader, Manfred Gerlach, is — for the moment — head of state. Sensing the growing mood for change, he wrote articles as long ago as last September criticizing the style of leadership, although carefully avoiding criticism of socialism. At that time the liberals owed their survival to acceptance of the communist system.

Der Morgen has become increasingly outspoken, although it remains essentially the party organ, backing liberal policies while remaining loyal to socialism. In this it resembles virtually all the East German press at the moment.

Despite demands for a free press and despite the fact that it would probably be acceptable to the bemused authorities if a new independent paper were established, there is no money to do it. The 600 titles survive because they are funded by parties, trade unions or youth groups. Paid advertising scarcely exists, although Lufthansa recently took space to advertise its direct flights to Leipzig.

For the present the media are trapped in a brave, vicious circle. To be credible it has to attack the organizations which fund it. If it destroys them, it destroys the structure which finances their existence. It is a test of their serious commitment to change for them to continue.



Timisoara as it should be spoke

The pronunciation unit of the BBC has never been more in demand . . .

The historic changes which are reshaping life in Eastern Europe may be a victory for freedom and democracy — but they are providing a daily nightmare for Britain's newscasters and foreign correspondents.

Amid the uncertainty of developments in Poland, Hungary, East Germany and now Romania, only one thing can be guaranteed. Another set of virtually unpronouncable names and places will emerge and offer the latest tongue-twisting challenge to television and radio journalists.

Faced with reading a news bulletin at short notice how would you cope with László Tökés, Jan Cárnogursky, Ladislav Adamec or Rumen Vodenicharov? Perhaps placenames would be less troublesome. Try Timisoara, Bistrita or Brasov.

'William Waldegrave's name has been the subject of three separate recommendations over the past 10 years'

They are just a handful of the words for which the BBC's pronunciation unit has provided phonetic guidelines in the past week. Last month the unit, which has a staff of five, dealt with a record 1,049 inquiries from correspondents and newsreaders.

"Eastern Europe contributed quite a lot to that total," said Mr Graham Pointon, head of the unit. While the pronunciation unit provides a daily list of names and places which may cause trouble for newsreaders, sometimes news deadlines call for immediate decisions and interpretations.

"Sometimes we are rung in the middle of a news bulletin by a newscaster saying, 'In the next link I have got to say this name. What is it?'. We do get calls we cannot answer instantly, and all we can give them is our best guess."

Normally the unit has time to consult more than 40 linguists at the BBC World Service headquarters at Bush House, London, who provide a pronunciation which is written down in an accepted international phonetic alphabet before being adapted by a BBC modified spelling system with English sounds.

Sometimes embassies, foreign broadcasting organizations or newspapers based in London are consulted for an accurate pronunication to add to the list of 200,000 that has been built up since the 1940s.

But the correct pronunication of a name or place can still cause panic. Yesterday, for example, there was disagreement over how to pronounce the name of Hans Modrow, the East German prime minister. After taking advice from Bush House, Pointon and his colleagues believed the name should be pronounced "Modrow". But BBC correspondents insisted they kept on hearing the name pronounced "Mod-row".

"We are frantically trying to check with as many sources as possible which is the correct pronunciation," Pointon said. "We have called the monitoring service at Caversham, in Kent, to find out what is being said on East German television. That is the one most likely to be correct."

While the East European upheaval has provided most of the pronunciation headaches of late, the names of domestic politicians are not always straightforward.

Yesterday's bulletin contained the latest advice on the proper pronunciation of William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister. "He has either changed his mind or we have misunderstood his wishes on two occasions. His name has been the subject of three separate recommendations over 10 years," Pointon said.

Richard Evans

Agencies attack plans for credit-risk warnings

In February, the Government plans to introduce stringent regulations governing consumer credit advertising. The move is designed to simplify regulations in the 1974 Consumer Credit Act, and protect the high-borrowing public from misleading claims.

But the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, which represents 275 major agencies, is so concerned that it has written to the Department of Trade and Industry Consumer Affairs Unit arguing that the new measures will only add to the confusion. The IPA suggests that they be abandoned in favour of a more self-regulated approach.

Philip Circus, IPA director of legal affairs, is convinced that the new rules are little more than a political ploy designed to allay the alarm over rising consumer credit levels. "The latest move is supposed to be an exercise in simplification, but there is no evidence to suggest that the new regulations will be any less burdensome than the old," Circus says.

The main bone of contention is the requirement that the words "Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan" will have to be included in all but the most straightforward advertisements for loans.

In addition, advertisements for foreign currency mortgages will have to carry the warning: "The sterling equivalent of your liability under a foreign currency mortgage may be increased by exchange rate movements."

The IPA argues that the inclusion of these new phrases will only add to most people's misunderstanding of financial matters. But the DTI disagrees. "We want to make it clear to members of the public that if they take out a secured loan they are at risk. We don't want the rules to leave any loopholes open for ambiguity or misinterpretation," a DTI spokesman says.

Public and political concern over consumer spending has been growing for some time. Figures from the Committee of London & Scottish Banks on consumer credit reveal that in October this year the British public owed £30 billion, more than double the 1985 figure.

Advertising expenditure by traditional lenders such as banks and building societies has also soared. Figures taken from Media Expenditure Analysis Limited (MEAL) indicate that building societies have so far spent £109 million on press and television advertising this year, compared with £64 million in 1985, while advertising by banks has risen from £51 million in 1985 to £106 million.

But if the agencies believe that the new rules will further complicate credit advertising, banks claim that a warning will not deter the serious borrower who is out to find a money-lender, come what may.

Nicola Chapman

CREATIVE, MEDIA & MARKETING APPOINTMENTS

B B C B B C B B C

Radio Journalists

BBC World Service

With a worldwide audience of more than 120 million and more than 200 news programmes every 24 hours, the BBC World Service newsroom is unique within the BBC and unmatched outside it.

We need journalists with sharp news judgement who write clearly, precisely and stylishly; who possess or can develop a wide range of broadcasting skills; who have excellent subbing and/or reporting ability; and who can demonstrate a keen interest in international affairs.

Duties may include providing material to be translated for foreign language news broadcasts, contributing to World Service news programmes in English and reviewing the British press for overseas audiences. There will be a wide range of opportunities, including foreign travel and the possibility of competing for positions as overseas correspondents.

Short-listed candidates will be asked to sit a test before they are considered for an interview. The successful applicants will normally have had substantial experience in a news organisation, and we are particularly interested in journalists whose background and ability indicate that they should start towards the top end of our salary scale. Both permanent and temporary contracts are likely to be available.

Salary: £14,223 p.a. rising to £19,347 p.a. plus £709 p.a. continuing allowance.

Based Central London.

For application form please send s.a.e. to **BBC World Service Recruitment, Bush House, The Strand, London WC2B 4PH.** quoting ref. 4381/T.

Completed application forms should be returned by Tuesday, 2nd January 1990.

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

BTCV

Protecting the Environment

PUBLICITY OFFICER

London

Salary circa £11,000 pa inc. London Weighting

The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers is the largest national voluntary organisation promoting and organising conservation work by volunteers.

Based at the Area Office in King's Cross, the Publicity Officer's role is to publicise the range of BTCV activities throughout London.

The successful applicant will be outgoing, imaginative and have proven organisational ability. Self-motivation, balanced with the ability to work as part of a team of staff and volunteers, is essential.

Other essential requirements include previous experience of dealing with the media, liaising with designers and a reasonable level of keyboard skills. An awareness of, and commitment to, conservation issues is desirable.

For further details and an application form. Please contact the South East Divisional Office at: Cripplegate Lane, Southwater, West Sussex RH13 7UN.

Closing date 19th January 1990.

BTCV is striving to be an equal opportunities employer

Funded by

LONDON BOROUGHS GRANTS SCHEME

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME Continued on next page

PA to City Chief Executive

c.£20,000 + mortgage subsidy + bonus

This is a high level role, providing a full range of PA/Secretarial services to the Chief Executive of a leading name in City finance.

Our client is looking for a top performer who can maintain a diary, take minutes at executive committee meetings, collate reports, arrange Directors' lunches and make travel arrangements.

A portion of your time will also be spent assisting a top level marketing team which will involve preparation of presentations to new and existing clients and booking entertainment.

Naturally, to meet the challenge of this fascinating post, you will need to be an intelligent, fully experienced and presentable PA with a resilient personality. Numeracy is essential as are excellent typing and shorthand skills.

In return you will receive an excellent remuneration package. This includes a generous mortgage subsidy, private health cover, non-contributory pension scheme, interest free season ticket loan and performance bonus.

To apply, please write with a full CV to Michael Swaine, B&B Selection, 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RP, listing separately any company to whom your details should not be forwarded as replies will be sent direct to our client.

B&B

B&B Selection

197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RP.

MARKETING MANAGER

THE CONTINUED GROWTH AND SUCCESS OF MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL HAS LED TO THE CREATION OF THE NEW POST OF MARKETING MANAGER. THE DUTIES WILL COVER ALL ASPECTS OF THE MARKETING MANAGEMENT OF EUROPE'S LIVELIEST BUSINESS SCHOOL.

•

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE IS LIKELY TO COMBINE A HIGH DEGREE OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN MARKETING PLANNING AND THE EXECUTION OF MARKETING POLICIES WITH RELEVANT PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE ESPECIALLY IN MEDIA, PROMOTION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS. THE MARKETING MANAGER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR A SMALL BUT ENTHUSIASTIC TEAM.

•

POTENTIAL CANDIDATES ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT EITHER THE DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL, PROFESSOR T. CANNON OR THE CHAIR OF THE MARKETING COMMITTEE, DR. P.C.N. MICHELL. (TEL: 061 - 275 6333).

•

THE SALARY WILL BE WITHIN THE RANGE EITHER £12,879 - £16,665 PA OR £17,328 - £20,469 PA.

•

FURTHER PARTICULARS AND APPLICATION FORM MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE REGISTRAR, THE UNIVERSITY, MANCHESTER M13 9PL, TEL: 061 - 275 2028 TO WHOM APPLICATION (ONE COPY SUITABLE FOR PHOTOCOPYING) SHOULD BE MADE BY 12th JANUARY 1990. QUOTE REF: 286/89

MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
THE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
requires an

ADMINISTRATOR

(Salary by Negotiation)

This is an outstanding opportunity for an experienced, creative festival administrator to be involved in establishing an exciting new international arts festival in Bournemouth.

Please apply in writing with full c.v. and the names of two referees by Wednesday, January 3, 1990, to Dr Roy Wales. Festival Director, Bournemouth International Festival Ltd, c/o Department of Tourism and Publicity, Westover Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH1 2BU. Tel: 0202 291718.

Oasis Publishing Ltd

Is a young but successful publisher. Small is beautiful as they say but we are diversifying and the company will grow rapidly. Therefore we are looking to fill the following posts

DESIGNER

For magazine and below the line design work. We require experience, self-reliance, drive and the ability to lead a small design team

TWO PASTE-UP ARTISTS

To handle the design and paste-up of magazines and finished artwork for BTL accounts. Hard work, initiative and flair essential.

JUNIOR ACCOUNT EXEC

Mainstream blue chip clients, below the line billings

Salaries/packages are negotiable. If you wish to work in out-of-town circumstances for an aggressive and committed young company write (enclosing CV/examples of work) to Henry Boulter, Publishing Director, Oasis Publishing Ltd, Media House, Boxwell Road, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 3ET.

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
External Projects

Satellite Information Services is the premier name in live horse and greyhound racing coverage and we are currently looking to appoint an Associate Producer.

In February 1990 SIS will be supplying the BSB sports channel with a half hour daily racing show. Reporting to the Editorial Director/Executive Producer, the successful applicant will lead a small but highly professional team in the production of this broadcast.

The ability to plan and format programmes and interviews is essential, together with the relevant experience to direct ENG shoots and supervise edits.

Salary will be according to experience and a good benefits package is offered.

Full CV and salary details should be sent to:
Jill Johnston,
Personnel Officer,
SIS, Satellite House,
17 Corsham Street,
London N1 6DR.

sis

NEW YEAR,
NEW CAREER
8TH JANUARY 1990
TO PLACE YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS SPECIAL CRÈME DE LA CRÈME FEATURE
PHONE
01-481 4481
THE TIMES

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
Office in London
seeks
experienced Senior Secretary. Excellent secretarial skills including use of electronic office equipment. Working knowledge of French. Immediate availability. Salary £13,500+.
Telephone for appointment or send CV to:
UNHCR,
36 Westminster Palace Gardens,
Artillery Row, London SW1P 1RR.
Telephone: 01-222 3555
NO agencies please.

Seasons Greetings
Jaygar Careers
01-730-5143
JAYGAR

A BRIGHT FUTURE
OFF WITH THE OLD, AND ON WITH THE NEW.
FUTURE APPOINTMENTS SENDS BEST WISHES TO YOU!
LET OUR MESSAGE RING LOUD AND CLEAR
WE WISH YOU ALL A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.
FUTURE APPOINTMENTS
01-379-6968

Prejudicial delay in crime is abuse of process

Regina v Bow Street Stipendiary Magistrate, Ex parte DPP
Regina v Bow Street Stipendiary Magistrate, Ex parte Cherry

Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Garland

[Judgment December 19]

In criminal proceedings mere delay which gave rise to prejudice and unfairness might by itself amount to an abuse of the process.

In some circumstances prejudice would be presumed from substantial delay. In the absence of a presumption where there was substantial delay it would be for the prosecution to justify it.

In cases involving police officers the circumstances of service of a notice under regulation 7 of the Police (Discipline) Regulations (SI 1985 No 581) were a material consideration which the court was entitled to take into account.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in (i) refusing an application by way of judicial review for the quashing of a decision by Mr R. D. Bartle, a Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, on May 3, 1989 when he refused to commit Police Sergeant R. W. Goodger and a number of other police officers for trial on charges arising from a demonstration at Wapping on January 24, 1987 and (ii) quashing a decision of Mr Weeks, another Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, on May 25, 1989 that the prosecution of PC Russell Peter Cherry was not an abuse of process.

Regulation 7 of the 1985 Regulations provides: "The investigating officer shall, as soon as is practicable (without prejudicing his or any other investigation of the matter), in writing inform the member subject to investigation of the report, allegation or complaint and give him a written analysis:

"(a) informing him that he is not obliged to say anything concerning the matter, but that he may, if he so desires, make a written or oral statement concerning the matter to the investigating officer or to the chief officer concerned, and

"(b) warning him that if he makes such a statement it may be used in any subsequent disciplinary proceedings."

Miss Ann Goddard, QC and Mr Nicholas Ainley for the DPP; Mr Edmund Lawson, QC and Mr Tudor Owen for Sergeant Goodger and the other respondent police officers; Mr James Holdsworth for Mr Bartle.

Mr Edmund Lawson, QC and Mr Michael Egan for PC Cherry; Miss Ann Goddard, QC and Mr Oliver Sells for the DPP; Mr James Holdsworth for Mr Weeks.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, giving the judgment of the court, said the applications arose out of the printing dispute of 1986-1987.

A demonstration of 12,000 to 15,000 people at Wapping on Saturday, January 24, 1987 was attended by 1,200 police officers amid well-founded fears of wholesale breaches of the peace.

There were many arrests but it was soon said that some police officers had committed breaches of discipline and even criminal offences.

The Police Complaints Authority appointed Chief Superintendent B. Wyrko of the Northamptonshire Police to investigate the allegations and complaints against the police.

More than 500 complaints were made by 185 people who were at Wapping that night. Some police officers were disciplined and others charged with criminal offences. Two committal proceedings had been held and eight more were awaiting a hearing. Some 26 officers were involved altogether in the committals.

The first hearing was before Mr Bartle on May 3, 1989.

The information alleged that Sergeant Goodger and five police constables had conspired between January 23, 1987 and February 3, 1987 to pervert the course of justice by making false entries in report books and false statements in relation to the arrests of three men at the Brown Bear public house in Leman Street.

Following submissions by Mr Tudor Owen and Miss Goddard Mr Bartle declined jurisdiction and discharged the defendants on the ground that it would be an abuse of the process to hear the charges. He had based his decision on *R v Derby Justices, Ex parte Brookes* ([1985] 80 Cr App R 164); *R v Merseyside Chief Constable, Ex parte Calveley* ([1986] QB 424) and *R v Colwyn Justices, Ex parte DPP* (unreported, DC, March 7, 1988)

On June 6 the DPP had applied for judicial review of Mr Bartle's decision.

The second of the two committals was in respect of PC Cherry who was accused of unlawful wounding. It was alleged that he had assaulted Terence White while taking him into custody.

PC Cherry had made a duty statement about Mr White's arrest on January 25, 1987. Mr White had complained at the time about the alleged assault and had made a detailed witness statement on April 2, 1987.

On December 17, 1987 all the officers under investigation were served with regulation 7 notices. The delay in serving those notices was caused by a policy decision taken early in the investigation.

On February 16, 1988 a formal notice was served on PC Cherry and he was interviewed. In January 1989 a summons was issued for unlawful wounding. The file had been with the Crown Prosecution Service since mid-May 1988.

At PC Cherry's committal hearing on May 25, 1989, Mr Weeks had declined to adjourn the proceedings although it was indicated that the DPP was seeking judicial review of Mr Bartle's decision.

He decided that the real delay in PC Cherry's case was 13 months and that it was justified on the basis of evidence given by Mr Wyrko.

It would be unrealistic to hold that PC Cherry had been prejudiced by his failing memory. Every officer on duty that night had known his conduct would be under scrutiny and PC Cherry had in any case made a duty statement. On balance he would have a fair trial, Mr Weeks said.

Mr Wyrko had said he was concerned from the outset of the inquiry about the service of regulation 7 notices in the light of *Calveley*, in which Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, had said he did not accept that all the evidence had to be collected and considered before notices were served.

The court's power to prevent an abuse of its process was set out by Sir Roger Ormrod in *Brookes*.

It could arise either where the prosecution had manipulated or misused the process of the court so as to deprive the defendant of a protection afforded by law, or to take advantage of a technicality, or where on the balance of probability the defendant had been or would be prejudiced in the preparation or conduct of his case by unjustifiable delay by the prosecution.

Their Lordships could see no warrant for not following ample precedent (including *R v Colwyn Justices, Ex parte DPP*) for the proposition that mere delay which gave rise to prejudice and unfairness might by itself amount to an abuse of the process.

Obviously what had to be shown was that the delay complained of had produced genuine prejudice and unfairness. In some circumstances, as the cases showed, prejudice would be presumed from substantial delay. Where that was so it would be for the prosecution to rebut the presumption.

In the absence of a presumption, where there was substantial delay it was for the prosecution to justify it.

When an investigation into a police officer began it would not be known whether the ultimate proceedings, if any, would be criminal or disciplinary.

Their Lordships had not the slightest doubt that the service of the regulation 7 notices was a most material matter and one which each magistrate was entitled in his judgment to give prominence to among other factors.

Their Lordships could detect no flaw in Mr Bartle's exercise of his discretion. He had applied his mind to the correct principles of law and had preferred Mr Tudor Owen's submissions which their Lordships had found compelling.

Mr Weeks' conclusion really amounted to saying that the delay up to February 16, 1988 was extreme and to be castigated but nevertheless that delay was justifiable and there was no prejudice. There was ample material before the magistrate to enable him to infer prejudice.

The power to stop a prosecution in its tracks was one that had to be used only in a clear case. But in PC Cherry's case the magistrate's decision was wholly untenable.

By the end of April 1987 there was ample evidence to sustain a *prima facie* case against PC Cherry for assaulting Mr White. There was no sensible reason why he should not then have been charged or served with a regulation 7 notice or both.

The mere fact that more than a thousand police officers were under investigation in no sense diminished the prejudice suffered by a particular officer against whom there was a *prima facie* case of the commission of a criminal offence at a very early stage of that investigation.

PC Cherry's duty statement could not be equated with a contemporary written account of events compiled to meet an allegation that the maker of the document was the offender.

It was perfectly proper, according to circumstances, to infer prejudice from the mere passage of time. The inference was more easily drawn when dealing with a single brief but confused event which had to depend on the recollections of those involved.

In their Lordships' judgment there was extreme delay from which prejudice could properly be inferred.

Solicitors: DPP; Russell Jones & Walker; Treasury Solicitor.

Russell Jones & Walker, DPP; Treasury Solicitor.

Legal aid decision flawed through factual mistake

Regina v Legal Aid Area No 10 (East Midlands), Ex parte McKenna

Before Lord Justice Neill and Mr Justice Roch

[Judgment December 13]

A decision of a legal aid area committee to discharge the legal aid certificate of one of the plaintiffs claiming compensation from Eli Lilly, the manufacturers of the drug Opren, because she had refused to accept the global settlement offered by Eli Lilly to all plaintiffs who had complied with certain time limits, was flawed because the committee had based its decision on a mistaken view of the facts.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in granting an application for judicial reviw by Mrs Rita McKenna and quashing a decision of a subcommittee of the West Midlands Legal Aid Area which upheld the discharge of her legal aid certificate.

Mr Richard Gordon and Mr Martin Fodder for Mrs McKenna; Mr Duncan Matheson, QC and Mr Richard Ough for the legal aid area; Mr Michael Spencer, QC and Mr Charles A. W. Gibson for Eli Lilly.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that it was clear from the written reasons sent to the applicant that the subcommittee based their decision to dismiss the appeal on the premiss that she had been offered the sum of £2,000 which she had refused.

In the case of the applicant, however, no final assessment of the value of her claim had been, or could have been made before the deadline for accepting the settlement because the medical evidence was still incomplete.

On the contemporary documents it seemed quite clear that she was being asked to accept the overall settlement in principle before the assessment of her claim had been made and before she received the offer of any figure.

The sum of £2,000 was at most only a provisional figure based on incomplete material.

It seemed to his Lordship that the decision making process was flawed in the sense that a decision was based on a demonstrably mistaken view of the facts.

MR JUSTICE ROCH, concurring, said that at one time it appeared that it was being submitted that because an individual claim by the applicant against Eli Lilly even if successful would have been a wholly uneconomic process, for that reason alone it was unreasonable that the applicant should continue to receive legal aid and therefore regulation 78(c) of the Legal Aid (General) Regulations (SI 1980 No 1894) applied and the certificate should be discharged.

Of course, the cost of the litigation against the amount which would be recovered in a successful action was one factor, and a very important factor, for the secretary of the legal aid committee or the area committee on appeal to take into account under regulation 78.

But in his Lordship's judgment it should not be the sole factor, or necessarily, the decisive factor.

Were that to be so, then all the claimants in the Opren litigation should have had their legal aid certificates withdrawn as soon as the probable cost of that litigation was known, because it was clear that the estimated costs of pursuing the claims to judgment was many times greater than the global value placed on all the claims of the qualifying plaintiffs.

If that were the correct application of regulation 78(c) it would place multinational corporations in a position of advantage *vis-à-vis* individual claimants which, in his Lordship's opinion, such commercial concerns ought not to enjoy.

Solicitors: J. M. Fletcher & Co, Winsford; Collyer-Bristow, Davies Arnold & Cooper.

Wards aged 17 can be interviewed

In re B (a Minor)

It was unnecessary for a police authority to seek the leave of the wardship court when circumstances required the police to interview a ward who had attained the age of 17 years. There was no need either for the police to seek the approval of the wardship court for interviews which had taken place.

Mr Justice Ewbank so stated in chambers in the Family Division on December 15 (and reported with his Lordship's consent) when making no order on an application by the Chief Constable of Lancashire seeking approval and leave for interviews conducted between the ward and the Lancashire police in July 1989.

MR JUSTICE EWBANK said that the ward, a boy was aged 17½.

The statutory provisions relating to the rights of children in police detention and the procedure to be adopted as set out in section 57 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 did not apply to children over the age of 17 years.

It was not necessary to inform the wardship court of the arrest or detention of a ward of court who was over the age of 17 years.

It was not necessary for a police authority to seek leave to interview a ward or to seek subsequent approval of the wardship court for interviews which had already taken place between the police and a ward of court over the age of 17.

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

GORDON·YATES — THE WORK SHOP — MERRYWEATHER

wish all their clients, candidates and friends a very festive Christmas and a happy, prosperous 1990.

01-493 5787 — 01-409 1232 — 01-493 0713

10, Dover Street, London W1X 4LB

SEER SELECTION

FIRST CAREER
£13,500

Are you looking for a challenging and involving role in the City? This is a unique opportunity to join a leading US investment House as a **traders assistant** to a team of brokers.

The ideal candidate should be a numerate graduate or at least educated to A Level standard and have sound keyboard skills (specifically computer knowledge) to ensure success in this fast moving and dynamic environment.

If you are aged between 20-24 and have what it takes, please call us on 01-631 0479, we are open between Christmas and New Year.

Recruitment Consultants

COUNTDOWN 1992

EUROPEAN SECRETARIES FOR THE 1990s!

FRANKFURT
£15 - 18,000 a.a.e.

An opportunity to be at the 'hub' of European business for a secretary with administrative ability in Frankfurt.

Your qualifications and experience will include PC functions (ideally Macintosh), fluent German and some audio. Above all you will be a cheerful and willing member of a young and growing consultancy. Non-smoker. Early to mid 20s age group preferred.

International Secretaries
01-491 7100

Sarah Hodge
Sarah Hodge Recruitment Consultants

PERSONNEL PA
£17,000

A genuine 1:1 PA role to the Personnel Director of a well known Department Store Group. He will definitely involve you in the decision making process. This is a highly rewarding senior position. Excellent benefits, of course, + hefty discounts.

Phone 434 0030.

SARAH HODGE LTD RAMILLIES BUILDINGS 215-217 OXFORD ST LONDON W1 TEL 434 0030
Late night opening Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday till 7pm
24 HOUR ANSWERPHONE AND FAX ON 434 0030 EXT 205

PERSONAL ASSISTANT - MAYFAIR

Executive Assistant for Swedish businessman, skilled in administration, organisation, bookkeeping and word-processing. Elementary knowledge of French or German would be an advantage. Challenging work environment with varied assignments for adaptable, congenial person. Hours 9-5. Salary commensurate with experience. References required.

Respond in writing to:
Mrs Merete Chidekel,
Fulton House Business Centre, Fulton Road,
Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 0TF.

ADVERTISING SECRETARY WITH A DIFFERENCE!

We are a top W1 Advertising Agency, seeking a top Advertising Secretary.

Working in a friendly, often frantic Account Group, you will need to have a number of qualities including:

* A terrific sense of humour!
* The ability to stay calm when the going gets tough!
* An enthusiastic and flexible approach to work!

If you possess all these and have excellent organisational skills and accurate typing of 60 wpm we'd certainly like to talk to you.

The environment is lively yet challenging and we offer a salary of c£10,500 plus overtime.

Contact:
LIZ DAVIES
Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Ltd
01-636-5060

(No Agencies Please)

BESTE WENSEN
BOAS FESTAS
BUONE FESTE
FELICES FIESTAS
FROHE FESTTAGE
GODT NYTTAR
GODT NYTAR
GOTT NYTTAR
MEILLEURS VOEUX

SEASONS GREETINGS AND A MERROW CHRISTMAS!!

01-636 1487
7 Beaufetta Place
W1M 9AG

TEMP FOR US NOW!!

The choice is so that you are always in regular work, in assignments that you can choose when and where you work, rates that are so good that everyone is talking about them!! So why don't you call us now and become one of London's most sort after temporaries in the 1990's.

WE ARE OPEN 27, 28 & 29 DECEMBER. WE CAN ALSO ACCOMMODATE YOU BEFORE AND AFTER OFFICE HOURS.

Susan Beck
RECRUITMENT 01-584 6242

CHELSEA AREA

First class Administrator wanted for letting service flats. Previous experience in similar work and ability to type important. 4 weeks holiday. Good salary.

Phone 01-589 0086

LEGAL LA CREME

HOLLAND PARK
c£12,000

Conveyancing Solicitors require S/H Secretary/Receptionist. Previous legal/property experience req. Hours 9.30-5.30.

606 7194
(No Agents)

SUPER SECRETARIES

Continued from page 29

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

situated in one of the most attractive touristic areas of the Isle of Fuerteventura (Canary Isles) in Caleta de Fuste surrounded by sun, sea, and beach.

real estate investment with important future

UP FOR SALE:

- Built-up areas in perfect operation with a tourist occupancy of 85% at present.
- Yachting harbour: completely equipped and perfectly running.
- Urbanized areas with approved General Development Plan in the first line in front of the beach for the construction of Bungalows
- Plot situated in privileged area for the construction of Hotels

Get information from:

INCASA

General. Yagüe, 11 - pl. 15 - 28020 Madrid - España
Delegación Galicia: José Antonio, 5 - 1º - Orense - España
Tél. + 34.88.216258 - Telefax + 34.88.212134

FRANCE

CHARENTE & CHARENTE MARITIME

Homes and holiday homes in this beautiful, tranquil region of France. Large selection from £19,000. All financial and legal services arranged in the UK or local French office. For further enquiries please telephone: 01-445 3450 10am-3pm or 0243 74 4969 9am-5pm.

PRESTIGE PROPERTY Alpe d'Huez, delightful ski and holiday chalet, south terrace, superb mountain view. Large living room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bath, space for 2 more bed and bath. 700 sqm land, parking. 40 miles Grenoble & TGV. Super mountain holiday home. FF 1,250,000. Tel 010 33 1 45.20.88.40. (Paris).

VENESS CHARTERED SURVEYORS & ESTATE AGENTS
107 High St, Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 3BB

We work in conjunction with French Agents in Normandy, Brittany and Western Loire for the sale of property - all types and prices.

Telephone 0705 210071
Fax 0705 210089

MORTGAGES remortgages all types, all purposes, from 8½ % IPA 025176 4545.

PROPERTY hunting on your behalf in the Alps. Individual portfolio prepared to suit to your specification. Alpine Property Search. UK 0367 21214, France 010 33 50 75 90 11.

VENDEE - Farms, camping sites, chateaux, properties, flats and houses on sea front. Please contact Terre Loti. 136 bd. A. Briand, 85000 La Roche sur Yon, France. Tel: 010-33-81 62 28 98. Fax: 010-33-81 62 07 11.

GENERAL

BRITISH SOLICITOR Fluent Spanish, resident Mallorca, for all your legal services. Steven C Gatfield LL.B. Tel 010 3471 676973. Fax 010 3471 675058

FOR SALE in Brussels, Belgium, freehold properties. Contact: MCI Invest SA, Place G. D'Arezzo 17/8, B 1050 Brussels. Tel: 010.32.2.3473228. Fax: 010.32.2.3457130

ITALY

UMBRIA large traditional farmhouse. For details Tel Barry. 0933 225749 answerphone

SPAIN

AGUILAS (Costa Calida) spacious appt, 3 dble beds. Long let (min £1,000pw) or sale ca £50,000. 01-242 6448 or (0707) 51387.

MARBELLA - Luxury 3 bed, 3 bath, large beachfront garden apartment with magnificent views to Gibraltar and Africa. In the grounds of the 5-star Hotel Don Carlos with all facilities. Sat TV, phone, underground parking. 289 sq m including terrace not garden. 24 hour security. £250,000. Tel: Spain 010 3462832078 or 01-806 3308

MARBELLA - 2 bed, 2 bath villa. Extensive sports facilities, Golf Course. Sea Views. £97,500. Phone: 09644 600.

MARBELLA town house near excellent beach and harbour, between existing and 2 new golf courses. 3 beds, lounge / kitchen, 1½ bathrooms, patio and garden. Usual community facilities with pool and tennis courts. Superb woodland setting, fully furnished. Bargain £55,000 ono. Tel: 061 904 9638.

UNSPOILED Fishing village South of Granada. Lovely new little house. 50 yds from beach. 2 beds, 2 baths, kit/diner. Terrace. Fully furnished. £40,000. Tel 010-34-58-62-3098.

SWITZERLAND

KLOSTERS/GRISONS

First Class 1-3 bedroom apts in the Silvretta Park Hotel with indoor pool, garage and aparthotel facilities /service. Price range from SFr. 300,000 to SFr. 800,000. Attractive down payments and Swiss mortgages approved for sale to foreigners.

Tel: CH/81°810°45'54
Tel: CH/663/43136
Fax: CH/81-810°51'55

Hocas Ltd Zuerich
P.O. Box
CH-8152 Glattbrugg

U.S.A.

SUPERB location, 25 minutes SouthWest of Ft. Worth, Acton, Granbury, TX area. Near lake Granbury. Excellent location for golf course. State Highways bordering 2 sides. 2 housing developments across road. 2 bedroom house, deep well, part farmed & one pond. Easy access to Ft. Worth - Dallas Metroplex. Land area 244.5 acres. Price $8,300 per acre. Tel: 509-582-6348. Address: 2608½ South Elm, Kennewick, WA 99337 USA

OVERSEAS PROPERTY TO LET

USA - Greenwich, Connecticut. Fully furnished town house on private road 40 minutes to New York City. 2 large bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, 1 dining room, 2½ baths, 2 car garage, jacuzzi & swimming pool. $2,800 per month. Tel: 0101-203-6377945

RENTALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

PERIOD THATCHED COTTAGE

Between London and Bristol. 5 minutes from M4, renovated to Conservation Award standards. Excellent decorative order. Furnished/ unfurnished. 3 bedrooms, garage. £575 pcm negotiable. First to see will rent.

Tel (0793) 740346
or (0793) 740908.

BARBICAN EC2.

Magnificent lake views. Fans to a very high standard 1 bed spacious rec rm, sep dining rm. £275 pw. 1 bed penthouse fully furnished also car parking inc £210pw. 1/2 bedroom fully furnished flat views gardens £230 pw.

STOCK PAGE & STOCK
251 4171

KATRIN GRAHAM LIMITED
20 MONTPELIER STREET
LONDON SW7

Specialists in high quality rental properties (furnished or unfurnished) personal and professional service in prime London locations.

PLEASE CALL 01-584 3285

MAYFAIR

Luxury 2 bedroomed apartment available for short let over Christmans Period.

Telephone for further information

MAYFAIR PARK ESTATES
01-499 2154 any time.

TAPPLYS
THE PROPERTY MANAGERS

Quality Property in N W London from £250 per week

1 Chalk Farm Parade
Adelaide Rd NW3 2BN
01 722 4001

CENTRAL LETTINGS
Residential Letting & Property Management Agents

QUEENSWAY W2
Selection of luxury 1/2/3 bed flats. Very secure block. Porterage, entryphone, lift. Available short/long term.

W14
Luxury 2 double bed flat near tube. All mod cons. Available now £200 pw.

SW7
Superb 1 bed flat near Cromwell Hospital. Lift, entryphone, FGCH, double glazed. Available now. £160 pw.

We also seek luxury properties in prime areas for Embassy and Corporate tenants.

01-221 6880
01-792 1839

JOHN D WOOD & CO.
Previously House from Home Ltd.

Offer a professional service to all tenants seeking quality furnished and unfurnished flats and houses in prime locations across London.

For all enquiries please call:-

North of the River
01-491 4311

South of the River
01-946 9447

F.W. GAPP

We offer a personal and professional service to Landlords and Tenants in all aspects of the Lettings market and would be delighted to hear from you.

The Property Managers
01-235 [illegible]

Richard James

We urgently require quality properties in the SW1/3/7, W8/11 areas for waiting applicants

01-823 8237
50 Hans Crescent
Knightsbridge.

IRONSIDES RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

For luxury executive Houses... on the other hand, studio flats'

1989 Estate Agency award for 'best lettings service of the year'

Tel: 01 581 5877/2470

LANDLORDS

W8/W11 2/3 bed apt, req big Jan for French prof. Long let.

NOTTING HILL. Smart 2 bed apt req

W11/W10 3 bed, 2 bth rm apt req to move 2.5.9.p.

For free local Pacific

ABOUT TOWN RENTALS
01 221 0111

ROBERT BRUCE & PARTNERS

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A RENTAL PROPERTY IN CENTRAL LONDON?

We have a large selection of property from family houses to one bedroom flats, furnished and unfurnished, short and long lets, in every price range.

PLEASE CONTACT
MANDY POWELL OR KATE EARLE
ON 01-937 9684

ST JAMES HOUSE, 13 KENSINGTON SQUARE
LONDON W8 01 937 9847 937 9684

HYDE PARK W2
(Nr WHITELEYS)

3 interior designed flats: 1 Bedroom, 1 Reception, Kitchen & Bathroom, 5 Day Maid Service. Flats all in same block. Avail now. Long/short let from £300 pw inc. Suit Executives.

Call now
CONSUMMATE PROPERTIES
on 01-727 3050

RUCK
SOUTH KENSINGTON
Unfurn

Stunning penthouse. Very spacious. Superb views. Immac throughout. 3 double beds, 1 single, L shaped recep, 3 baths, kit/brek room, 2 x roof terrace. Avail 12 months + £550 pw reg.

01-581 1741

GOING ABROAD?

We specialise in letting and managing good quality houses and flats in the better areas of London and have waiting tenants.

BUCHANANS
351-7767

W1, W2 AND NW1

Selection of studios, 1, 2 and 3 bed apartments for rental, from 1 week to 6 months. Fully furnished, from £150 - £500 pw.

Also selection of flats for sale, from £60,000 - £500,000.

Graham Properties
01-637 4782.

JOHN STRAND RENTS FURNITURE

Instantly, inexpensively. Classic, Modern

2a Bartholomew Road London NW5 2NA
TEL 01-485 8615
FAX 01-485 2329

NON-SECRETARIAL

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

FRENCH Supervisor/Liaison contact. £14,500 Use your fluent French 75% of the day working as supervisor with French import Co. Supervisory experience, sound admin skills. Excellent phone manner and car driver essential. Central London, relocating to Heathrow area. Age 25+. Tel: The Language Business 379 3189.

DOCTORS Secretary For Private Medical practise NW8. 3 days per week, experience preferred. Telephone after 6.00 pm, on 286 1577

PART-TIME experienced secretary for small private company based in Charterhouse Square, EC1. Reply to BOX F92

PRIVATE Sec for American Gentleman, Belgravia. Must be under 35, non-smoker, driver, speak some French, enjoy working on own and be very articulate and intelligent. Work includes handling all aspects of private life plus housework administration. Salary £15,000. Reply with CV to BOX B11.

ROYAL Library, Windsor Castle. Experienced Personal secretary required by the Curator of the Print Room commencing 9th January 1990. Good shorthand and fast accurate typing essential, preferably with wordprocessing experience (Wordperfect 5). Salary scale £7,254 - £8,801. Annual leave entitlement 22 days. Please write, enclosing full CV, to the Curator of the Print Room, Royal Library, Windsor Castle, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1NJ (Fax: 0753-854910).

SECRETARIES for Architects & Designers Permanent & temporary positions. AMSA Specialist Recruitment Consultants. 01 734 0832.

SPECIAL person with selling & pers. office admin exp (estate agent?) sought for unique opportunity in Chelsea art gallery. Salary neg. Ph: 01-625 5937.

SQUASH RACKETS

Relegation beckons Lambs following Dittmar's departure

By Colin McQuillan

Australian Christmas arrangements have had a dire impact this week upon the leaders and losers of the Pimm's Premier League.

The sudden decision of Chris Dittmar, the world No. 3, to depart early for Adelaide on family business and leave his Lambs Club colleagues facing fixtures against UTC Cannons and Leeks Welsh Wizards, may have consigned the defending League champions to the relegation zone.

Conversely, his compatriot, Chris Robertson, who is ranked fifth, decided to spend the holiday in his new flat in Cardiff and play both this week's fixtures at the head of the Wizards' order.

A 4-1 win over GT Superkings Abbeydale yesterday brought the Cardiff side, who finished bottom last season, the leadership of the League and their second fixture at home against the weakened Lambs side looked certain to reinforce the opposite movement of both teams.

Robertson allowed Paul Gregory, the Abbeydale first string, only three consolation points in the last of their three games yesterday. Jamie Hickox looked less than wholly aggressive among the Wizards, losing to Peter Marshall at second string, but his renowned inconsistency made that result less than reassuring to Jason Nicolle, who was promoted to Lambs' second string in Dittmar's absence.

Nicolle failed to seal a famous victory for Lambs after losing in straight sets to Ross Norman, the former world champion, in the deciding rubber between Lambs and UTC Cannons in the London Derby. It was the first time in seven league seasons that Norman played below first string for Cannons.

"I don't agree with the demotion," Norman said. "The Squash Racquets Association ordered Cannons to play Del Harris above me on the strength of his win over me in Singapore a few weeks back.

"I am still the world No. 6. He is fourteenth in the world. One result does not change everything."

Harris, who was at first string yesterday, defeated Bryan Beeson, the England captain, whom he overcame a week ago to reclaim the British championship, but he was not listed to appear against Edgbaston Priory the following night.

Beeson's chore yesterday was to face Robertson which, with Nicolle likely to struggle against a resurgent Hickox, left a difficult lower-order requirement for Lambs against Adrian Davies, Mark Maclean and Robert Owen.

This mischievous combination of Welsh, Scots and English talent has provided the driving force for the Wizards this season and the odds on them relinquishing the chance to push the defending champions into even deeper trouble were not high late yesterday.

RESULTS: Lambs Club 2, UTC Cannons 3; GT Superkings Abbeydale 1, Leeks Welsh Wizards 4; Embassy Edgbaston Priory 2, Allsports Northern 3.
League positions: 1, Leekes Welsh Wizards, 34pts; 2, UTC Cannons, 31; 3, Village Leisure Hotels, 30; 4, GT Superkings Abbeydale, 29; 5, Lambs Club, 22; 6, Embassy Edgbaston Priory, 11; 7, Allsports Northern, 11; 8, Weir Systems Surrey, 4.

YACHTING

UK team narrows the gap

From Bob Ross, Sydney

While Alan Bond was in Perth yesterday, explaining a troubled financial situation to the annual meeting of Bond Corporation shareholders, Drumbeat, his maxi yacht, scored her third win, in the fourth race of the NorTel Southern Cross Cup series off Sydney.

The United Kingdom team, meanwhile, more than halved its points gap to the leading team — now New South Wales — after the retirement of Southern Cross, the fastest Australian One Tonner.

Drumbeat, steered by Peter Gilmour, made an excellent start to the race, contested over a 73-mile offshore Olympic-style course. With Iain Murray, the tactician, digging into his memory of sailing 18ft skiffs in a fresh nor'easter on Sydney Harbour, Drumbeat bounced off wind shifts from headlands to open a long lead before the fleet left the harbour. She led on corrected and elapsed time around every mark in the fairest sailing breeze of the series so far — 18-24 knots and steady in direction from the north-east.

The UK were the second highest scorers in the race behind NSW. The UK's 112.5 points were gained from a fine fourth after a great start by Mike Peacock's Castro 45 Juno IV, a seventh by Heaven Can Wait (Harold Cudmore), and a tenth by Canon Express (Eddie Warden Owen).

Heaven Can Wait was lucky to get around the course after a series of breakages. Cudmore was vitriolic in his criticism of the Farr design office and Cooksons of Auckland, the builder, when he returned to dock. "The deck gear has been badly designed. I think it is a disgraceful service to the owner of the yacht," he said.

Three protests today which could drastically change the series points situation. Cyclone and Foo 2 (Warwick Miller, Hong Kong) collided on the approach to the first windward mark, leaving Foo 2 with a piece chewed out of her transom. Canon Express is involved in two protests: with Prime Factor (Bob Brady, Australia) for a port and starboard crossing incident near the first mark, and from Sagacious V (Gary Appleby), who allege interference by her on the windward beat out of the harbour.

RESULTS: Fourth race (73 miles): 1, Drumbeat (A Bond, W Aus), corrected time 8hr 15min 41sec; 2, Cyclone (M Ryan, New South Wales), 8:19.04; 3, Great News (D Forbes/J Calvert-Jones, NSW), 8:19.22; 4, Juno IV (M Peacock, UK), 8:18.28; 5, Prime Factor (R Brady, Aus), 8:21.41; 6, Foo 2 (W Miller, HK), 8:22.10; 7, Heaven Can Wait (H Cudmore, UK), 8:22.11. Teams: 1, NSW, 388; 2, Australia, 377.5; 3, United Kingdom, 367.5; 4, Western Australia, 315; 5, Hong Kong, 314.5; 6, Victoria, 248; 7, Soviet Union, 45.

King of the wild and woolly trail rides Shogun



A one-off for the road to the desert and the jungle: Partridge and the vehicle he built for himself and Dickinson (right)

Scot out to break Camel's back

By Stephen Slater

A number of drivers leave Britain today to make their final preparations for an event which has become known as the last great motoring adventure: the Paris to Dakar Rally.

The event officially starts with two short timed sections in France on Christmas Eve and Boxing Day but, with three weeks and over 6,000 miles across the toughest desert terrain in Africa facing the competitors, it is not surprising that technical inspections before the start are scheduled to take three days and include navigation tests and survival briefings for the competitors.

Among the entries, which include over 200 heavy trucks and motorcycles, in addition to 245 four-wheel-drive vehicles, is the leading long-distance driver, Andrew Cowan, from Berwickshire.

He leads no fewer than 11 Mitsubishi vehicles, supported by five support trucks and over 30 service staff as the Japanese aim for victory over the Camel Pengeot team.

The former world rally champion, Ari Vatanen, of Finland, returns after winning last year in a prototype Pengeot four-wheel-drive racer, but Cowan's specially developed Mitsubishi Shogun could give the Scot his first victory, although Lada, Nissan and Toyota are also entering heavily financed factory teams.

Closer to the original concept of adventure than the leading teams, Dick Partridge, a builder from Ipswich, is contesting his third Paris to Dakar Rally in a four-wheel-drive racer designed and built by himself.

"I have spent most of my savings and nearly all of the past three years on this rally," he said. "It's addictive. Everybody starts off as rivals but after a couple of days camaraderie takes over and everyone helps one another.

"Last year we stopped to give extra food and survival gear to a stranded motorcyclist in the Tenere Desert while a rival service crew helped us by welding our broken chassis.

"The event is incredibly tough, with the exhaustion of driving in the desert heat; and the pounding of the rocky terrain slowly destroys the vehicle. It is more than just motor sport, it is a challenge just to finish."

Partridge's experience of the event has been gained the hard way. His first entry in a Japanese "Jeep" two years ago ended in disaster on the first timed section in Algeria.

"We didn't appreciate how rough it was going to be. We hadn't prepared thoroughly and I drove so hard that the vehicle simply fell apart around us. We did a lot better last year. I paced myself better but we were still forced to retire at around half-distance when the transmission failed near Agadez."

Almost in passing, Partridge mentioned that this was almost 100 miles from the nearest road and that he and his navigator, Andy Davey, were forced to spend three days in a sandstorm before being rescued.

"It was strange, really, although we both appreciated the dangers we might face. When we were stranded we only felt bitter disappointment at being out of the event. We had complete faith in the rally organizers and knew that with our radio beacon it was only a matter of time before we were picked up.

"This year, though, I am a lot more confident that we can finish. It is a big advantage to know the conditions you are going to face."

Partridge and his navigator, a television producer, Matt Dickinson, this year face a revised route which includes rocky mountain tracks and jungle conditions in addition to the classic North African desert.

After landing in politically sensitive Libya, the crews head south from Tripoli into the desert interior, where certain tracks are mined, although the official route will be cleared.

Then then cross into Niger and then Chad (where the route instructions casually mention that there is a war going on and any vehicle moving after dark is likely to be fired on).

The route then brings competitors through Mali to Mauritania, where the dry heat of the desert turns into tropical humidity and the cars reach the Atlantic coast of Africa at the Senegalese capital of Dakar on January 16, 18 days after their arrival in Africa.

The ultimate challenge is also for motorcyclists, with one Englishman among the 130 who are starting the event. Tony Fowkes, aged 48, a former leading rally driver, contested this event in 1983 and 1985, but this year he rides a factory-prepared Honda motorcycle.

"It's the biggest challenge of all, just to see if I can do it." Fowkes, who is also a former motorcycle trials champion, said.

"The biggest problem is exhaustion. In the desert you will fall off dozens of times as you hit soft sand. You worry about hurting yourself too badly to continue. It is not the fear of injury, it is not finishing that really hurts."

SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

Athletes act after winter of discontent

By Jane Wyatt

The winter sports scene has undergone dramatic changes in the two years since the Paralympic Games in Innsbruck. Following what has been described as an "almost embarrassing" performance by the British team, the athletes and administrators decided it was time to coordinate a team who could successfully compete at world level.

Thus, the British Winter Sports Commission has brought together more than 13 organizations involved in winter sports for the disabled. Two teams will shortly be representing Great Britain in two world championships, cross-country skiing on the East Coast of the United States in January, and downhill skiing in Colorado in February. They will be the first multi-disability teams to be completely coordinated by one management.

The BWSC's leader of the alpine ski team, Andy Toomey, was in Austria for the winter Paralympics. "We were disastrously behind the rest of the world, mainly because there was poor coordination of the team entries and their training. But we do have the talent," he said.

The list of problems preventing that talent from emerging is daunting. It is difficult to persuade operators to allow time for race training on dry ski slopes. Specialised coaching is also hard to come by. At the moment, Artificial Ski Slope Instructors (ASSIs) are not required to have any experience of training disabled skiers. The BWSC is negotiating with the English Ski Council for disability awareness to become a defined part of an instructor's course.

The additional problem of finding good enough racing guides is faced by visually impaired skiers, who are, nevertheless, reaching a very high standard. The British cross-country team consists solely of four blind or partially-sighted skiers, and Vicky Bourne, aged 18, from Essex, is tipped for a gold medal in the alpine ski world championships.

In the end, of course, it all comes down to money. Special equipment is one of the secrets of international success and it does not come cheap either. A revolutionary ski bob, designed for paraplegics by the British coach, Alan Clark, costs nearly £1,000.

Andy Toomey believes the future can only lie in commercial sponsorship which he hopes will be forthcoming once the athletes show what they can achieve at next year's world championships.

Michael Phillips reflects on a golden decade which produced some marvellous performers under both codes

Accolades for Desert Orchid and Dancing Brave

As the decade draws to its close, everyone will have their own thoughts about the best performers seen on British racecourses during the Eighties.

These are mine and since we are in the middle of a jumping season where better to start than with National Hunt racing.

Desert Orchid is still very much the jumper of the moment, despite that defeat at Sandown earlier this month.

An instantly loveable character because of his colour, deportment and zest, he is the most popular horse in training, and deservedly so. I for one will never forget the scenes that followed his victory in the 1988 Whitbread Gold Cup at Sandown Park or this year's Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham. They left grown men in tears.

Yet even Dessiemania, understandable on such occasions, must not be allowed to cloud the achievements of others, most notably that grand Irish mare Dawn Run. The Irish celebrations were shared by all fair-minded sportsmen when she won the 1986 Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham two years after her Champion Hurdle triumph.

In becoming the first to land that unique double, she claimed her own special spot in the Hall of Fame besides a niche in our hearts.

Watching her and Jonjo O'Neill salvage victory from the jaws of defeat as that memorable Gold Cup reached its climax was every bit as thrilling as Desert Orchid's win last March.

If Burrough Hill Lad was arguably the best horse to win the Gold Cup in the Eighties, Wayward Lad was the best not to have done so, having won the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day an unprecedented three times.

Yet he still played a significant part in that extraordinary result to the 1983 Gold Cup when the Dickinson family (and I say that after giving it a lot of thought) trained the first five home. At the time, Michael got most of the glory, but his parents, Tony and Monica, both trainers in their own right, were supportive in the wings.

Dawn Run apart, the hurdling scene was basically dominated at the beginning of the decade by Sea Pigeon, who came within a whisker of winning the Champion Hurdle three times and See You Then who, on the infrequent occasions we did see him run because of several problems, oozed so much class that he was able to become the first horse since Persian War to win the title three times.

If I had to take only one recording of the Grand National with me on a desert island it would be that of Aldaniti, ridden by the cancer-conquering Bob Champion beating the equally gallant John Thorne on Spartan Missile in 1981.

Twelve months later, it was the turn of another crack hunter Grittar and that great Corinthian Dick Saunders to go one better.



Magical moment as Dancing Brave (Pat Eddery) shows brilliant acceleration to sweep past Bering in the 1986 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe

In the world of Flat racing it was Robert Sangster who called most of the shots in the early Eighties, before succumbing to the might of the Arabs.

This year, Nashwan and Old Vic, who between them collected the English, French and Irish Derbys, were both owned by members of the Maktoum family from Dubai. Sadly, circumstances decreed that they never met.

I maintain that Old Vic beat basically non-stayers in the French Derby, albeit in some style, and will always regard Nashwan as the better no matter what conclusions the handicappers reach.

It is a view shared by Dick Hern and Willie Carson. Unlike the commercially minded, they have always insisted that Nashwan is the best horse they have ever been associated with.

By becoming the first horse to win the 2,000 Guineas, the Derby, the Eclipse and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes in the same season, Nashwan played his role to the full.

Three years earlier, though, Dancing Brave had gone close to achieving the same feat: the one blot being his narrow and appallingly unlucky defeat at Epsom. What his admirers, and they were legion, could point out was that at least his European campaign ended on a high note when he won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in resounding style whereas Nashwan never even made the great French epoch after being beaten in his preparatory race.

If Dancing Brave's defeat in the Derby was only narrow, the tone for the Eighties was set by Shergar, in 1981, turning his race into a procession.

Later, Golden Fleece, Teenoso, Slip Anchor, Reference Point and Nashwan were all destined to put a most emphatic stamp on the history of the Epsom colts' classic in their different ways with Steve Cauthen's front-running victories on Slip Anchor and Reference Point causing a tactical rethink in certain camps.

Latterly, Warning and Zilzal were both milers supreme on their day, but if I had to nominate the miler of the decade it would be that very fine French filly Miesque. She was good enough to capture the Breeders' Cup Mile twice in the United States, a record that in time may well turn out to be truly remarkable for a horse trained in Europe.

Like Miesque, Ma Biche and Ravinella were other good French fillies to grace our tracks, but they failed to match Miesque's talent which bordered on the exquisite.

In conclusion, Desert Orchid gets my vote as the jumper of the decade over Dawn Run, while Dancing Brave is just preferred to Nashwan in the Flat racing sector.

RUGBY LEAGUE: WIGAN'S WORLD NO. 1 IS PASSED FIT TO PLAY HIS FIRST MATCH OF THE SEASON

Hanley set for a surprise return in Trophy replay

By Keith Macklin

Wigan will play their trump card in the Regal Trophy quarter-final replay against Leeds at Central Park tomorrow. Ellery Hanley will make a surprise return for his first match of the season to give a tremendous morale-boost to Wigan and a shuddering psychological blow to the hopes of Leeds, who were held to a 10-10 draw at Headingley on Saturday, despite the fact that Wigan were reduced to 12 men after the sending off of Steve Hampson.

Hanley has not played for Wigan since returning from a summer stint in Australia with a mysterious injury affecting the lower abdomen. At first, a stomach muscle complication was feared, but a more recent diagnosis located the trouble in the muscles and tissue around the groin, and after intensive treatment at the same London clinic used by Daley Thompson, Hanley is fit to resume his career as the acknowledged No. 1 player in the world.

The Wigan chairman, Maurice Lindsay, said yesterday: "We had originally planned to bring back Ellery for the Boxing Day derby with St Helens, but the hand injury suffered by Andy Goodway at Leeds last Saturday made a natural opening. Ellery is hungry to play, and he is leaner and meaner than ever."

Hanley has, according to all reports, worked hard and intensively in London, and he and Thompson became good friends and workout companions. Hanley has proved his fitness to his own, and the Wigan club's, satisfaction with a series of strenuous and testing exercises on his legs and long cross-country runs. The return to the Wigan side of this idol of the crowds could add between 5,000 and 10,000 people to tomorrow's attendance, while adding to the psychological advantage achieved by Wigan in out-scoring Leeds by two tries to one while one man short last Saturday.

The Wigan club are pleading with supporters to get to the match early for the 7.30pm kick-off, particularly those travelling across the Pennines from Leeds. Thursday is late night Christmas shopping in Wigan and the roads in and out of the town will be heavy with evening traffic.

Despite the fact that Hampson is likely to be suspended by the disciplinary committee on Friday, he is expected to be in the squad announced by the Wigan coach, John Monie.

● Warrington, the Lancashire Cup winners, will be the first club to host a televised game in this season's Silk Cut Challenge Cup. Their inter-county match against Featherstone Rovers, at Wilderspool on January 27 will start the BBC run-up to the Wembley final in April.

Referees are not above correction

The Rugby Football League has taken the unusual step of imposing one-match suspensions on a referee and two touch judges for what is described as "poor performance" (Keith Macklin writes).

Fred Lindop, the league's controller of referees, acted after studying assessment reports on the three officials following recent games.

David Howes, the public affairs executive, said: "We will not be naming the officials concerned, because it could damage their position, and the attitude of crowds towards them, in the future.

"However, the action proves that referees are not above correction and punishment if the league considers such action to be necessary."

Howes added that Lindop was keen to stress the point that he would continue to take disciplinary action against officials whose performances did not come up to the required level at a time when rugby league is being given a much higher profile by television coverage.

● Joe Grima, the Widnes prop forward, who was released by Widnes amid by-law confusion, is interesting several clubs, including Oldham, Salford and Swinton.

It would be ironic if he returned to Swinton, the club who sold him to Widnes, since the return price would be much cheaper than the original.

● Duncan Platt, the Oldham full back, is to make a personal appearance before a disciplinary committee hearing tomorrow following his sending off for tripping in the Regal Trophy match at St Helens on Sunday.

Platt and the Oldham club have insisted that the trip was accidental and was little more than a clash of bodies, but in view of the League's crackdown on tripping and head-high tackling the appeal may fall on deaf ears.

● Ian Potter, the Leigh forward, has broken a bone in a hand.

TENNIS

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Ekaterina Rubanova, aged 11 (above), daughter of the former leading Soviet player, Olga Morozova (right), matched her skills against the best of Britain's youngsters in the Marylebone Estates winter indoor series, an under-12 invitational training event for girls at Bisham Abbey yesterday (Andrew Longmore writes).

Ekaterina beat Kelly von Staussenberg, Nancy Searle and Jheni Osman in straight sets on the opening day of the three-day competition for the best girls from the regions and a few invited guests.

Olga Morozova herself is in Britain, working with the national women's squad at Bisham and Queen's. She returns to the Soviet Union on Christmas Eve.



Grand Slam Cup body firm on German venue

By Andrew Longmore, Tennis Correspondent

The Grand Slam Committee will press ahead with its plans to stage the Grand Slam Cup in West Germany, but the format for calculating the eight players who will compete for the $6 million in prize-money has been changed.

The committee, made up of representatives of the four grand slam events, met yesterday with a representative of Teviri BV, the company headed by Axel Meyer-Woldan, the entrepreneur, which has guaranteed $40 million for the event over the next five years. Afterwards the committee confirmed that the tournament would go on from December 10 to 16, with or without the approval of the German Tennis Federation, which opposes it. The venue has not yet been decided, but is likely to be Munich, Dortmund, Stuttgart or Berlin.

The move puts the International Tennis Federation (ITF) one step closer to a potentially embarrassing split with one its strongest member countries. Only last week, during the Davis Cup final in Stuttgart, Claus Stauder, the head of the German federation, had said that the cup "in its present form" would not be sanctioned by his federation. He also called for the ITF and the Association of Tour Professionals to get together to resolve their differences over the cup.

The exact method of calculating the eight players who will compete for the $2 million first prize, the largest in the history of the game, will be decided early in the new year. Whatever system is used, it will be based only on the four grand slam tournaments. The original plan to allocate points for the Davis Cup as well has proved impractical and has been dropped.

CYCLING

BCF faces claims of unfairness

By Peter Bryan

Allegations that the British Cycling Federation (BCF) has given preference to English riders in the use of thousands of pounds worth of equipment, training and the first choice of overseas racing invitations, threaten a serious dispute within the sport before the Commonwealth Games open in Auckland on January 24.

The leading Scottish international administrator, Arthur Campbell, a former president of the BCS, has accused the federation of commandeering its vast stock of specialist wheels and hi-tech frames for England's road and track riders; taking preference over racing invitations, from warm countries, for riders selected for the English team for Auckland and funding the country's riders, to the exclusion of Scottish, Welsh and Manx competitors, for training abroad.

Campbell, who will be in Auckland as the commandant of the Scottish contingent, last night said: "Scotland can afford to send only seven road and track competitors. That is one fewer than the number of English team officials going to New Zealand. I am not being nationalistic about this but I have made known my views to the Scottish Cycling Union (SCU), who are demanding an explanation from the BCF about the funding of the England team."

Campbell claimed that invitations for a team to ride in Barbados recently, were given to English riders rather than to the British sprint champion, Stewart Brydon, and Steve Paulding, the bronze medal winner, both of whom are Scots.

Scottish riders were also refused permission to train on the covered track at Calshot, he added, unless they contributed to the higher fee charged to the BCF.

Last night Jim Hendry, a Scot and the chief executive of the BCF, said that he was certain that all the queries raised by the SCU about the funding of the England team for the games would be answered satisfactorily this week.

"I feel certain that this matter will be resolved and that there will be no spill-over in Auckland," he said. "Already the managers of the teams from the home countries have agreed how they want to operate. Basically, it looks as though the best riders will get first claim on any equipment they need."

RUGBY UNION: A DECLARATION OF INTENT THAT NEEDS RATIFYING

Drugs rear their oval head



If the recommendations on rugby's amateur status have held centre stage, the question of drugs and their use in enhancing personal performance is another that calls for a decision at the International Rugby Football Board's meeting in March.

There was no drug-testing in the first World Cup tournament in New Zealand and Australia two years ago. There were no tests when England visited Australia a year ago, nor when Wales toured New Zealand at the same time.

It is, however, common practice for such testing to occur at all games in the five nations' championship. The four home unions and France have agreed on a common policy which has been in place for the last three years.

It has been the practice at international level in Europe for two names to be taken at random out of a hat by the referee and for those players then to supply a urine sample. Of all tests carried out hitherto, not one has proved positive.

Since no positive case has come to light, no one has an inkling what the punishment might be other than to say that there would be suspension for a considerable time. If high jinks down Princes Street in Edinburgh with the Calcutta Cup caused a Scottish player to forfeit a tour, one wonders from which high peak in the Highlands the drug offender would be suspended.

Each of the five countries to stage the tournament has been designated as a region for administrative purposes. Each region has been allocated a director to be in charge of co-ordinating all the activities. Not least in the many consideratious will be the medical support teams.

It should be no surprise, therefore, that the medical organizer in charge of the English region should be Leon Walkden. He was for 25 years the honorary surgeon to the Rugby Football Union in England. Although he retired from the post in 1983, he was asked back for a further two years from 1986 to 1988. Not least of his concerns will be the matter of drug-testing.

"I am very keen that it should be inaugurated during the second World Cup," he says. "The use of substances for performance-enhancing is a curse in modern sport. As yet, rugby is free of it but it is important to fix a likely problem before it becomes a real problem."

He has his own problems at the moment. His pet dog attempted what the good doctor refers to as a Maori side-step on him — crashing into him, in other words — in the garden recently and so ending up with a broken leg. He has at least time to prepare the groundwork, though not to travel. His responsibility is to draw up the plan and the support teams required to fulfil the task at England's four venues.

"The home unions and France had made the recommendation for testing in the first cup tournament," he says. "There were those who felt at the time that it was a curious thing to do and thought it unnecessary. However, it became clear that there were no facilities in either New Zealand or Australia to carry out such testing.

"The rugby league authorities, however, in Australia have been carrying out tests for the last three years. But they have to fly the samples out of the country, to Hawaii, for analysis. This takes time.

"The rugby unions in this country have one of the most sophisticated centres in the world available to them. The drug control and teaching centre in King's College, London, assisted by the Sports Council, has kindly been put at our disposal since it was accepted that testing should take place in rugby.

"Once more, as the first time round, a recommendation has been put forward to the International Board by us in this country and France that the World Cup should have testing for drugs as part of its policy and to follow on those lines already operational in Europe. There has been a declaration of intent. It needs to be ratified at the meeting in March."

Middlesex start as favourites

Hampshire hope to reach their first county championship semi-final since 1964 when they meet Middlesex tonight in the London play-off at Staines' Feltham Hill Road ground (David Hands writes). The game has been transferred from the Stoop Memorial Ground, which is unplayable.

Middlesex go into the play-off as favourites but Hampshire are in form and will be playing their third game in eight days, following a victory over Surrey at Imber Court a week ago, and a 21-4 success against Sussex at Bognor last weekend.

Hampshire have Guyatt, the Basingstoke centre, available after illness and Joy, the Royal Navy hooker, replaces Lillington. Hampshire are also taking advantage of the presence ashore of Sheldon, the Navy flanker, who will be at sea by March 3, the date set for the semi-finals, in which the winners of this evening's game will be drawn with the other divisional winners, Cornwall, Lancashire and Warwickshire.

"We have not been concentrating for the full 80 minutes," Steadman, the Saracens scrum half who leads Middlesex, said. "But I expect all that to change."

Hastings fit to lead the Anglo-Scots

Gavin Hastings returns to lead the Anglo-Scots against the Scottish North and Midlands on Saturday in the third leg of the first district championship since the Anglos were admitted eight years ago (David Hands writes).

Hastings, the Scotland and British Isles full back, missed the defeat of Edinburgh at Cambridge last weekend because of a bout of gastro-enteritis. His place in the side, who won 12-9, went to Beasley, his club colleague at London Scottish, and the leadership to Macklin, also of London Scottish, who have 10 players in the team.

Though North and Midlands are the weakest of the district championship teams, they have played well in their three defeats this season. The game is due to be played at McKane Park, Dunfermline, but there is a prospect that, because of frost, it may be moved to Murrayfield, where the underground heating will ensure the match goes ahead.

Bath tour on heels of England trip

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Bath, England's league and cup champions, who make their first visit to Australia next year, will receive the stern examination they seek judging by the itinerary agreed with the Australian Rugby Union. Not only do they play Queensland in the third of their five matches but they also play the Australian Capital Territory team which gave the British Isles so much trouble this summer.

The tour begins on August 9 and ends on August 22 and Bath, their plans at that stage far advanced, were less than delighted when the Rugby Football Union announced that England will tour Argentina in July. Details of the national tour have yet to be confirmed but it is envisaged that it will end on August 4. There is every prospect, therefore, that Bath will be without several leading players for the club tour.

Indeed, country and club will be treading on each other's heels at an earlier date since, next month, Bath are due to repeat their visit of a year ago to Lanzarote to prepare for their Pilkington Cup campaign. Their training camp is in mid-January, a week or so after England's training squad leaves the Canaries.

Bath's tour Down Under is part of the broadening of their fixture list, which has already seen Steaua Bucharest and Toulon visit the Recreation Ground this season. During the past 16 months they have prepared for a new season in The Netherlands and France respectively, and the 1990-91 season will now begin, effectively, in the heat of Cairns against North Queensland.

It will end at Coogee Oval, where they will play Randwick, Sydney's premier club, on August 22; the Australian side, however, will almost certainly be without their internationals since the Wallabies will have concluded their tour of New Zealand only four days earlier.

That same consideration applies to the Queensland XV Bath will meet on August 15 but again, judging by the players who represented Queensland B against the Lions, the game at Ballymore should be sufficiently demanding to meet even the Bath coaching panel's criteria.

Two divisional sides, London and the North, are also considering Australia as a tour venue, though in the case of London, the champions, not until 1991. That again may create personnel problems since those players hopeful of appearing in the World Cup during the autumn of 1991 will be bound to whatever regime is laid down by the England management.

BATH TOUR ITINERARY: August: 9 v North Queensland (Cairns); 12 v South Queensland (venue to be confirmed); 15 v Queensland (Ballymore, Brisbane); 19 v Australian Capital Territory (Canberra); 22 v Randwick (Coogee Oval, Sydney).

FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Littlewoods Cup
Fourth round replay
Southampton v Swindon

Zenith Data Systems Cup
Third round
Middlesbrough v Sheffield Wed
Newcastle v Derby (7.45)

Leyland Daf Cup
Preliminary round
Bristol Rovers v Exeter (8.0)
Maidstone v Colchester
Rochdale v Chester

GM Vauxhall Conference
Cheltenham v Stafford

B and Q Scottish League
Premier division
Hearts v Aberdeen
St Mirren v Dunfermline

First division
Clydebank v Falkirk
Meadowbank v Ardrie

Second division
Arbroath v Stranraer
Cowdenbeath v Queen of Sth
East Fife v Kilmarnock
Montrose v Stirling

AC DELCO CUP: Third round replay: Woking v Barking.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Farsley Celtic v Bishop Auckland; Shepshed v Congleton.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Westgate Insurance Cup: Third round second leg: Atherstone v Bromsgrove. Southern division: Corinthian v Margate.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: (7.0) Blackburn v Sheffield Utd; Hull v Huddersfield; Leeds v Bradford; Notm Forest v Notts County. First division: Barnsley v York; Blackpool v Sunderland; West Bromwich v Mansfield; Wigan v Preston NE.

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Oxford Utd v Arsenal.

FA VASE: Third round: Chard v Dawlish (7.45). Third round replays: Rossendale Utd v Droylsden; Hastings v Hailsham.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Les Phillips Cup: Backwell v Exmouth.

RUGBY UNION
Toshiba County Championship

LONDON DIVISIONAL PLAY-OFF: Middlesex v Hampshire (Staines RFC, 7.30)

Club match
Glamorgan Wanderers v Lydney (7.15)

RUGBY LEAGUE

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: Castleford v Salford; Hunslet v Swinton (at Huddersfield).

BRITISH COAL YOUTH LEAGUE: Bradford v SW Yorkshire; South Cumbria v Allerdale (Craven Park, Barrow).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Carlsberg Premier League: Solent v Kingston (8.0).

BOXING: Chris Eubank v Jose De Silva, Kirkby.

TENNIS: BWTA Christmas tournament (Queens Club).

SPORT ON TV

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Screensport 2.15-4.15 and 7.30-9.30pm: College match and National Football League: Game of the week.

BADMINTON: Eurosport 12-1pm: Highlights of the World Grand Prix finals from Singapore.

BOXING: Screensport 7-8.30am and 9.30-11pm: Top rank events: Coverage of Vinny Burgese v Owen McGreachy and John Scully v Billy Bridges. Screensport 6-7.30pm: Professional event from the United States.

EQUESTRIANISM: Eurosport 9-10pm: Highlights of the Olympia Horse Show.

EUROSPORT MENU: Eurosport 8.30-9am.

EUROSPORT — WHAT A WEEK!: Eurosport 9-10am. Review of the week's sport.

FOOTBALL: Screensport 4.15-6pm: Spanish League: Atletico Madrid v Celta: Eurosport 10pm-midnight: Film: The 1962 World Cup.

GOLF: Screensport 10am-midday and 11pm: Highlights of the Johnnie Walker Classic from Australia, and Mazda championships from Sandy Bay, Jamaica.

HANDBALL: Eurosport 8-9pm: Highlights of the Indoor Super Cup from West Germany.

ICE HOCKEY: Screensport 12.15-2 15pm. National Hockey League: Eurosport 3-6pm: International match: Live coverage of Czechoslovakia v Soviet Union from Moscow.

ICE SKATING: Eurosport 2-3 and 7-8pm: Figure skating: Highlights of the Lalique Trophy, and NHK Trophy from Japan.

POLO: Eurosport 10-11am: Highlights of the World Championships from Benin.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Screensport 8.30-10am: Highlights of the Regal Trophy, second round.

SPAIN SPORT: Screensport 12-12.15pm.

TAEKWON-DO: Eurosport 11am-midday: Highlights of the World Championships from Seoul.

TRANS WORLD SPORT: Eurosport 6-7pm and 12-1am (tomorrow): Sport from around the world.

UPDATE: Screensport 7.30pm.

Mandavi can make mark over fences

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Now that there has been sufficient rain to soften the gallops and racecourses, trainers will be taking the wraps off promising young horses who have been waiting for just such an eventuality.

And none more so than Nicky Henderson, who has been itching to run a number of nice individuals for some while only to be frustrated by that prolonged drought.

At Ascot on Saturday, his patience was finally rewarded when The Proclamation made that stunning debut over fences.

Now it could easily be the turn of stable companion Mandavi to follow suit by capturing the Barkin Development Novices Chase at Bangor.

Were this a handicap hurdle Mandavi would be required to give lumps of weight away all round because by the time the 1986/87 season had drawn to its close he had won six and finished second in four of his 12 races.

The prospect of seeing him having to carry big weights over hurdles again this winter did not appeal to Henderson, hence the switch to jumping fences which he has done like a gazelle in practice

Lord Torenaga, who was also quite a useful hurdler on his day but not as good as Mandavi, and Speech, who was only narrowly beaten by Folk Dance at Doncaster recently, could turn out to be more of a threat than Martin Pipe's runner Redgrave Devil.

The choice of the day's best bet though has fallen on Crock-Na-Nee (nap) to win the Wynstay Hunt Supporters Club Handicap Chase. Bought at Doncaster in August for 16,500 guineas by that renowned judge David Minton for a new owner supporting Oliver Sherwood's yard, Crock-Na-Nee ran a marvellous race at Taunton first time out when he was beaten only half a length and the same by High Ham Blues and Corn Merchant.

In my view, that was a step up on his form of last season in Ireland where he was successful over hurdles at Tramore and over fences at Down Royal.

Afterwards, Sherwood and his new jockey Jamie Osborne reached the conclusion that Crock-Na-Nee did not fail through lack of fitness, more the inability to quite see out three miles. Hence the drop in distance this afternoon.

What I like about Crock-Na-Nee is the fact that not only did he finish 15 lengths ahead of the fourth horse that day, he was also only narrowly beaten on his English debut by horses who have shown good form this season.

At Folkestone, I very much like the look of Dercander's chance of winning the Fry and Pollard Handicap Chase.

Golden Freeze injures knee

By Phil McLennan

Golden Freeze, expected to be one of Desert Orchid's principal rivals in the £65,000 King George VI Rank Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day, is out of the race.

"He slipped over on the road and bumped his knee," Jenny Pitman, his trainer, said yesterday. "He's taken the skin off his near-fore and won't be able to run this side of January."

With the Mackeson Gold Cup runner-up an absentee, Desert Orchid will face a maximum of nine opponents as he attempts to emulate Wayward Lad by winning a third King George.

Following yesterday's five-day declaration stage, bookmakers were loath to bet on the race as Josh Gifford (Ballyhane and Vodkatini) and John Edwards (Bob Tisdall and Yahoo) have yet to finalize their plans.

Ballyhane, Bob Tisdall and Yahoo are also entered in the Rowland Meyrick Handicap Chase at Wetherby the same day, while Martin Pipe's Bonanza Boy is likely to go for the Coral Welsh National at Chepstow on Saturday.

Hills, however, reported that Desert Orchid had eased from 5-2 on to 9-4 on in their match betting against stable companion Barnbrook Again, who is 13-8 from 7-4.

Sirrell Griffiths, a Welsh dairy farmer, is hoping enough rain will fall in the next six days to allow his former point-to-pointer, Norton's Coin, to take his chance. Griffiths trains just three horses at Nantgaredig in Carmarthen.

Pearlyman, the dual two-mile champion chaser, may return to action in the Castleford Chase at Wetherby a week today.

KING GEORGE VI CHASE ACCEPTORS: Ballyhane, Barnbrook Again, Bishops Yarn, Bob Tisdall, Bonanza Boy, Desert Orchid, Norton's Coin, Pegwell Bay, Vodkatini, Yahoo.



Lester Piggott, back in racing silks for the first time for three years, shakes hands with Rafael Jacinto, a Peruvian jockey, after riding in three races at Monterrico, near Lima, at the weekend. Piggott's unexpected return to the saddle came at the end of a five-day visit to South America and the 11-times champion jockey left Peru on Monday for a holiday in the Caribbean. Piggott, aged 54, was granted a licence specifically for the two days by the country's ruling racing body, the Jockey Club del Peru. It was not, however, a fairytale comeback, as Piggott could finish only third on his solitary mount on Saturday and was last on both his rides the following afternoon

SOUTHWELL

Selections

By Mandarin

12.10 Really Neat. 12.40 Spanish Reel. 1.10 Poseidonia. 1.40 Cherry Chap. 2.10 Bedrock. 2.40 Rubydora. 3.10 Happyoats.

By Michael Seely

12.40 Sea Shadow. 2.40 Alaoui.

Going: standard

12.10 LITTONDALE SELLING HURDLE (Div I: 3-Y-O: £1,436: 2m) (10 runners)

1 55 BOLD GAMBLE 28 Ron Thompson 10-9 R Garritty (5)
2 65P CLOUD BASE 116 O O'Neill 10-9 V Slattery (7)
3 04 FRENCH CASTLE 22 N Smith 10-9 W Irvine (3)
4 MILLBECK LAD 69F D Burchell 10-9 D J Burchell
5 6 MR PRESLEY 49 W Wilson 10-9 R Campbell
6 PRESAGE 155F J Leigh 10-9 L Wyer
7 RECHARGEABLE 189F A Reid 10-9 J Ryan
8 0P0 WORLDSPORTFLYER 11 M Chapman 10-9 J Callaghan (7)
9 3050 KNOWETOP 13 F Barton 10-4 D Byrne (3)
10 34 REALLY NEAT 9 (S) D Gandolfo 10-4 S McNeill

2-1 Bold Gamble, 3-1 French Castle, 6-1 Cloud Base, 8-1 Knowetop, 12-1 Mr Presley, 14-1 others.

12.40 GARSDALE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,022: 2m) (7)

1 2132 SPANISH REEL 13 (D,F,G) J Edwards 7-12-0 N Williamson
2 2P11 SEA SHADOW 13 (B,CD,F) E Wheeler 4-10-10 W Irvine (3)
3 2P5- BROWN RIFLE 244 (C,D,S) D Burchell 9-10-5 D J Burchell
4 5-U1 HILL BEAGLE 28 (CD,F,S) W Clay 9-10-0 R Bevan (7)
5 504- BABY BOY 229 (D,S) T Hallett 8-10-0 D Morris
6 -3P0 MARTINELLI 25 (D,F,G) C Beever 10-10-0 B McGiff (7)
7 00-0 SHIRLEY ANN 32 R Weaver 8-10-0 P Harley (7)

9-4 Sea Shadow, 3-1 Spanish Reel, 9-2 Brown Rifle.

1.10 LITTONDALE SELLING HURDLE (3-Y-O: £1,422: 2m) (9)

1 6920 ALWAYS GREAT 28 W Clay 10-9 R Bevan (7)
2 3 BURTONWOODS BEST 26 W Haigh 10-9 R Fahey
3 300 MAJOR FREDIE 12 (B) K Ryan 10-9 D Byrne (3)
4 36P POSEIDONIA 18 (BF) J Sutcliffe 10-9 Dale McKeown
5 4 BOLLIN GORGEOUS 11 C Beever 10-4 B McGiff (7)
6 F CITY TO CITY 23 D Chapman 10-4 R Garritty (5)
7 FORTUNE AND GLORY 116F Pat Mitchell 10-4 R Rowell
8 8 TRISTRAM'S LAKE 48 J Parkes 10-4 N Smith (7)
9 R0 WAVERLEY GIRL 40 J Wainwright 10-4 J J Quinn

6-4 Poseidonia, 5-2 Bollin Gorgeous, 5-1 Burtonwoods Best, 8-1 Always Great, 10-1 Major Fredie, 12-1 others.

1.40 WENSLEYDALE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,730: 2m) (14)

1 1126 SLIPPERY MAX 11 (D,F,G) C Beever 5-11-12 L Wyer
2 1516 STORM WARRIOR 16 (B,C,D,G) B Preece 4-10-10 S Keightley
3 P036 STORMGUARD 28 (B,F) W Clay 6-10-8 R Bevan (7)
4 641 CHERRY CHAP 18 (D,F) D Chapman 4-10-6 R Garritty (5)
5 2443 OLYMPUS REEF 18 P Davis 4-10-6 Tanya Davis
6 -148 FEASIBLE 11 (D,G) S Avery 5-10-1 J Barlow
7 0P0- SPANISH SONG 72F M Chapman 4-10-0 R Fahey
8 F0-5 COTENELE 81 T Hallett 6-10-0 D Morris
9 2262 MOVE ABOUT 9 Mrs H Parrott 5-10-0 M Jones
10 45UP ORDER OF MERIT 13 D Wilson 4-10-0 J Callaghan (7)
11 F636 SIROCCO BAY 23 M Barraclough 5-10-0 Ann Stokell (7)
12 -430 JOEY BLACK 166 P Blockley 5-10-0 P Midgley
13 0-64 BARTRYN 28 Mrs J Croft 4-10-0 —
14 PF0- YUFFROUW ANN 219F (V) K Wingrove 4-10-0 —

7-2 Slippery Max, 4-1 Olympus Reef, 5-1 Cherry Chap, Storm Warrior, 8-1 Move About, 10-1 Feasible, Stormguard.

2.10 DENTDALE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,450: 2m 6f) (8)

1 0229 POONA EXPRESS 18 (B,S) A Ridout 8-11-10 S Turner
2 6061 BEDROCK 9 (F,S) P Davis 8-11-0 (6ex) Tanya Davis
3 3923 LUCY LASTIC 28 (F,S) W Clay 5-10-13 R Bevan (7)
4 159- CHICO VALDEZ 222F (F) M Chapman 5-10-13 D Byrne (3)
5 6060 DREADNOUGHT 14 (S) J Carden 9-10-6 Mr J Carden
6 0-55 ELLTEE-ESS 11 R Weaver 4-10-5 —
7 -442 AQUA VERDE 18 (S) A Reid 10-10-5 J Ryan (5)
8 FF0 CELTIC GERTRUDE 14 S Bowring 9-10-0 M Murphy

5-2 Bedrock, 7-2 Lucy Lastic, 4-1 Chico Valdez, 6-1 Poona Express, 8-1 Aqua Verde, 12-1 Elltee-Ess, 20-1 Dreadnought.

2.40 WHARFDALE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,394: 2m 4f) (10)

1 6P13 HIGH FINANCE 18 (CD) R Weaver 4-11-10 J Callaghan (7)
2 06-2 ALAOUI 21 (F,G,S) Mrs S Oliver 7-11-0 Jacqui Hayes
3 00-6 PRINCE LEONARDO 36 D Wintle 9-11-0 S Keightley
4 -0P3 PROUD POMPEY 28 R Hartop 8-11-0 R Crank
5 -P08 SHANNON PRINCE 27 A James 7-11-0 E Tierney (7)
6 4629 SIDE BRACE 21 D Barons 5-11-0 N Hawke (3)
7 -P6P THE BERWICK 21 W Clay 7-11-0 R Bevan (7)
8 F VASSAL 33 M Chapman 4-11-0 R Fahey
9 P-0 PHYLLIDA FOX 21 R Eckley 6-10-9 M Jackson (7)
10 -422 RUBYDORA 25 (S) M H Easterby 5-10-9 L Wyer

10-11 Alaoui, 3-1 Rubydora, 5-1 High Finance, 10-1 Side Brace, 12-1 Proud Pompey, 14-1 others.

3.10 COVERDALE NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,520: 2m) (12)

1 BLACKSBURG Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-11-0 W Dwan (7)
2 BROOKENFIELD J Jenkins 4-11-0 M Ahern (3)
3 2 HAPPYOATS 25 Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-11-0 J Burton (7)
4 62 HUNMANBY GAP 28 A Smith 4-11-0 S Turner
5 3/ MYSTIC PALACE 633 D Barons 6-11-0 N Hawke (3)
6 NORTHLANDS WAY D Wintle 4-11-0 W Hayes
7 69 RAPID BOY 58 Mrs E Scott 5-11-0 Miss J Scott (7)
8 TOM PASCOE Mrs H Parrott 4-11-0 Mr J Pritchard
9 TOP D'OR G Moore 4-11-0 J Callaghan (7)
10 JENNY'S JOY J Parkes 4-10-9 N Smith (7)
11 JUNIOR LANCASTER T Hallett 4-10-9 W Irvine (3)
12 REDMINT A Reid 5-10-9 J Ryan (5)

Evens Happyoats, 3-1 Mystic Palace, 6-1 Brookenfield, 8-1 Hunmanby Gap, 10-1 Blacksburg, 12-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: Jimmy Fitzgerald, 26 winners from 80 runners, 32.5%; D Burchell, 10 from 32, 31.3%; A Smith, 4 from 17, 23.5%; M H Easterby, 6 from 28, 21.4%; J Edwards, 8 from 46, 17.4%; G Moore, 5 from 29, 17.2%.

JOCKEYS: D Byrne, 5 winners from 16 rides, 31.3%; D J Burchell, 5 from 20, 25.0%; V Slattery, 3 from 13, 23.1%; L Wyer, 6 from 31, 19.4%; R Crank, 11 from 93, 11.8% (only qualifiers).

RAPID RACELINE
FULL RESULTS
0898 · 168 · 168
For individual course information...
Call 0898 168+ Number Below
LIVE COMMENTARY
FAST RESULTS

	LIVE COMMENTARY	FAST RESULTS
Bangor-On-Dee	119	120
Folkestone	157	158
Southwell	127	128
Happy Valley	175	-
Ante Post	121	-
Early Prices	101	-
Timeform Raceview	122	-
American Football	182	-

William HILL LEEDS LS1 3LB

Morley Street chance

Toby Balding's impressive Cheltenham winner Morley Street and the Irish-trained Lough Gale are joint favourites at 10-1 in the sponsor's first list for The Ladbroke Handicap Hurdle over two miles at Leopardstown on January 13.

Morley Street, with 11st 2lb, is rated 12lb behind his stable companion Beech Road — this year's Champion Hurdle winner at Cheltenham — when the weights were published yesterday. They also include last season's Irish-trained victor Redundant Pal on 10st 3lb.

After the joint favourites, the sponsors then bet: 12-1 Out Of Range, Toranfield, Vicario Di Bray, 16-1 Elementary, Fourth Of July, Redundant Pal, 20-1 others. The weights are:

Beech Road 12-0, Grabel 11-6, Morley Street 11-2, Elementary 10-12, Past Glories 10-10, Oaric 10-9, Roark 10-8, Master Swordsman 10-6, Welsh Bard 10-4, Wolf Of Badenoch 10-4, Atlaaas 10-3, Redundant Pal 10-3, Capable 10-2, Royal Derbi 10-2, Vicario Di Bray 10-2, Bonalma 9-12, Dis Train 9-10, Out Of Range 9-10, Royal Illusion 9-10, Trapper John 9-10, Kaden 9-8, Persian Style 9-7, Saygarse 9-7, Toranfield 9-6, Bright Note 9-5, Dare Say 9-5, Naevog 9-5, Random Prince 9-5, Fourth Of July 9-4, Granville Hotel 9-4, Joyful Noise 9-4, Derrinore 9-3, Stand Case 9-3, Lough Gale 9-2, Party Prince 9-2, Maiden Fair 9-1, Naher 9-1, New Mill House 9-1, Sweet Charmer 9-1, Tawdin 9-1, Hill Street 9-0, Castle Windows 8-13, Fragrant Dawn 8-12, Peanuts Pet 8-12, Simpion 8-11, St Coleman's Well 8-11, Sherwood Gunner 8-8, Marlion 8-8, Class Apart 8-6, Il Trovatore 8-6, Rusty Coin 8-6, Friona Law 8-5, Wazziella 8-4, Jurist 7-11, Winston Murphy 7-11, How Correct 7-8, Blakidra 7-6.

The meeting at Navan yesterday was abandoned because of frost.

FOLKESTONE

Selections

By Mandarin

12.45 Kittinger. 1.15 Just Too Brave. 1.45 Fit For Firing. 2.15 Dercander. 2.45 Green Ridge. 3.15 Apollo King.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.45 FIT FOR FIRING.

Going: good (chase course); good to soft (hurdles)

12.45 NO SILVER NOVICES HURDLE (£1,224: 2m 6f) (18 runners)

1 00322-1 GOLDEN CELTIC 43 (G) (Mrs H Brown) Miss H Knight 5-11-11 R Beggan 92
2 14US2-1 KITTINGER 88 (D,F,G,S) (J Lemmiman) A Turnell 8-11-11 A Dunne (7) 87
3 61 SOME DO NOT 20 (F) (Catfoss Farming Ltd) N Henderson 5-11-11 J White 86
4 AFTER YOU (T Reid) T Reid 6-11-3 — —
5 5- ALLEN'S ROCK 328 (Miss A Fleming) N Gaselee 5-11-3 A Adams (5) —
6 3- BALVENIE 252 (J Whelan) P Hedger 5-11-3 M Richards —
7 345 BARLEY LOAF 28 (P Oppenheimer) J White 6-11-3 K Burke —
8 00-6FF GRAND EDOUARD 11 (R Cole) J Elliott 6-11-3 M Hoad (7) —
9 INSIGHT STAR (Insight Cartons Ltd) N Gaselee 5-11-3 B Powell —
10 6 JUNIOR PARKER 39 (M Shone) J Edwards 5-11-3 T Morgan —
11 JUST A BOOZER (Mrs A Piper) D Grissell 5-11-3 J Akehurst —
12 60-P MANHATTAN BEACH 34 (K Ogden) G Thorner 5-11-3 L Harvey —
13 P- PERRY WELL 355 (A Grazebrook) K Bailey 5-11-3 I Lawrence (3) —
14 0- PRAIRIE STORM 221 (A Wates) T Etherington 5-11-3 E Murphy —
15 60- WATERHAY 334 (P Forsdike) S Mellor 5-11-3 S Cowley —
16 00-03 CNOC AN OIR 40 (M Jones) C Broad 5-10-12 P McDermott ● 99
17 0- LIZAWAY 294 (Miss S Wayman) Miss B Sanders 5-10-12 J Hails (7) —
18 10- MISS WRENSBOROUGH 236 (S) (Platinum Racing) D Gandolfo 5-10-12 W Humphreys (3) —

BETTING: 2-1 Golden Celtic, 3-1 Some Do Not, 4-1 Kittinger, 6-1 Cnoc An Oir, 8-1 Insight Star, 10-1 Junior Parker, 12-1 Allen's Rock, 14-1 Miss Wrensborough, 16-1 Barley Loaf, 20-1 others.

1988: KRUGGERAN SMUGGLER 6-11-4 E Murphy (13-8 fav) J Gifford 18 ran

FORM FOCUS GOLDEN CELTIC was pushed out to beat High Laws 1½l at Hereford (2m 3f, good). KITTINGER has not raced since being driven right out to beat Southover Lad 2l at Worcester (2m 4f, good to firm) in September.
SOME DO NOT made hard work of landing odds when beating Tryumphant Lad 1l at Warwick (2m 5f, firm). BALVENIE shaped promisingly when 5¾l 3rd of 17 to Forest Sun in an Ascot (2m, good to soft) National Hunt Flat race.
JUNIOR PARKER weakened quickly to finish about 25l 6th of 19 to Victory Gate at Windsor (2m 6f, good). CNOC ON AIR showed first signs of ability when staying on at one pace to be under 3l 3rd of 5 finishers to Celtic Hambro in a poorly contested Cheltenham (3m 1f, good) novices' hurdle.
MISS WRENSBOROUGH won a National Hunt Flat race at Ludlow (2m, soft) last season beating Mothecombe ¾l.
Selection: GOLDEN CELTIC

1.15 SELLINDGE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,786: 2m 100yd) (22 runners)

1 13-3210 DIPYN BACH 14 (B,CD,F,G,S) (J Wheeler) T McGovern 7-12-0 P Corrigan 89
2 0046/3-F MY DOMINION 22 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Martin) W Kemp 7-11-9 S McKeever (5) 90
3 0/1P01-0 JUST TOO BRAVE 6 (B,D,F) (M Stoneman) M McCourt 6-11-7 M Richards 88
4 032P-00 TACHADOR 34 (D,S) (P Axon) R Hodges 8-11-4 Mr C Maude (7) ● 99
5 101-600 CUT A CAPER 30 (D,F,G,S) (R Brown) R O'Sullivan 7-11-4 D O'Sullivan (7) 92
6 21213-0 YANBU 14 (B,D,F,S) (J Pepper) J Jenkins 4-11-3 S Smith Eccles 92
7 004/50-0 DICK KNIGHT 25 (D,S) (Miss T Bond) P Allingham 8-11-2 Mr S Andrews 90
8 3S3P-0F ALL INTENT 39 (D,F) (P Byfield) G Thorner 7-10-11 I Lawrence (3) 84
9 40152-4 CARFAX 34 (B,D,S) (Mrs K Sneath) R Hoad 4-10-9 NON-RUNNER —
10 0/40000- CORBALLY BESS 274 (D,S) (P Boddy) Miss L Bower 9-10-7 Mr C Burnett-Wells (7) —
11 051/P/P PARENTUS 11 (F) (Churchills Racehorse 100 Ltd) J Long 6-10-5 R Rowell —
12 6000/0-0 WINNING DANCER 5 (CD,S) (Lady S-Wortley-Hunt) Miss L Bower 5-10-3 S Hodgson (7) —
13 1222-82 CAYMAN QUEEN 11 (D,F,S) (J Furze) P Howling 4-10-3 B Powell 92
14 P0F0/00 SPLENDID FELLOW 5 (D,G,S) (Mrs D Stamp) G Gracey 8-10-1 Miss Z Davison —
15 6100- SPRING PLAY 425 (D,G) (P Bryan) A Denson 5-10-1 R Goldstein 87
16 0/00-0 REINDEER WALK 5 (L White) W Perrin 7-10-0 M Bowlby —
17 156P6P- SCOTS LAD 229 (D,F) (W Sleeman) D Jermy 8-10-0 R Arnott —
18 6/500-03 VICEROY MAJOR 12 (R Short) W G Turner 6-10-0 J Leech (5) 88
19 0P/P COOL OPERATOR 35 (T Beresford) B Stevens 6-10-0 M Stevens (7) —
20 0546-56 USELESS MEMBER 93 (D,S) (A Moore) A Moore 7-10-0 G Moore 90
21 060P03- TOPORI 205 (D,F,G,S) (R Peake) D Wintle 10-10-0 A Carroll 80
22 0/0P-60 KOSEY RUN 41 (Miss K Cuddy) J Bosley 6-10-0 M Bosley —

Long handicap: Reindeer Walk 9-13, Scots Lad 9-13, Viceroy Major 9-12, Cool Operator 9-11, Useless Member 9-11, Topori 9-11, Kosey Run 9-10.

BETTING: 9-2 Cayman Queen, 5-1 Cut A Caper, 6-1 Dipyn Bach, 8-1 Tachador, 10-1 Just Too Brave, Yanbu, 12-1 All Intent, Viceroy Major, 14-1 Useless Member, Dick Knight, 16-1 others.

1988: LUCKY BLAKE 5-10-3 S Smith Eccles (15-2) J Jenkins 19 ran

FORM FOCUS DIPYN BACH was an easy winner of a poor handicap at Towcester (2m, good to firm) beating Slaney Prince 6l. JUST TOO BRAVE finished a distant 7th to Kings Rank at Haydock (2m 4f, heavy) on seasonal bow but has claims on the form that enabled him to beat Battle Run 3l in a Worcester (2m 4f, good to firm) novice hurdle last November.
DICK KNIGHT, lightly raced, should have benefitted from his recent Market Rasen (2m, good) run when a soundly beaten 8th of 18 to Mill Tern. CAYMAN QUEEN lacked a turn of foot at Towcester (2m, firm) when 2nd to Ali Mourad with PARENTUS soon outpaced and pulled up.
SPRING PLAY proved a shock winner of a Hereford (2m, good) seller last season beating Tups 1½l. VICEROY MAJOR was 28l 3rd of 11 to Shalchlo Bay at Devon (2m 1f, good to firm).
TOPORI ran his best race for some time on his final start of last season when making steady headway from well off the pace to finish about 15l 3rd of 13 to Northern Gunner at Fakenham (2m 80yd, good).
Selection: VICEROY MAJOR

1.45 TATTERSALLS MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE QUALIFIER (£2,349: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

1 23FF/05 BARA PEG 35 (S) (D Smith) T Jones 8-11-0 L Harvey 81
2 025520- BUSY MITTENS 263 (Mrs H Bare) M McCourt 8-11-0 M Richards —
3 0005/FF CLOVER SONG 22 (E Easton) Mrs P Townsley 7-11-0 M Furlong —
4 000P/35- DANCING BALLERINA 421 (Mrs R Murrell) M Bolton 6-11-0 R Goldstein —
5 0-U333F FISHING SMACK 5 (G,S) (B Byford) B Byford 6-11-0 G Martin 86
6 01213-3 FIT FOR FIRING 25 (S) (F Chapman) D Elsworth 5-11-0 B Powell ● 99
7 0/0210- FLEETWOOD LASS 328 (S) (R Digby-Ware) J Ffitch-Heyes 5-11-0 — —
8 2/43334- HI' UPHAM 252 (R Brinkworth) D Gandolfo 7-11-0 W Humphreys (3) 93
9 0P0F0- LADY OF BALDWIN 272 (P Rabl) A J Wilson 8-11-0 T Morgan —
10 3006-63 MERYETT 25 (M Nelmes-Crocker) J White 5-11-0 D Skyrme (5) —
11 5005-53 MISTRESS ROSS 61 (Dr J Tilborg) G Thorner 6-11-0 I Lawrence (3) —
12 P64 NEW GAME 15 (M Fear) P Jones 7-11-0 S McKeever (5) —
13 6/433 PROVERBIAL ROSE 14 (R Tondut) R Champion 7-11-0 M Lynch 82
14 03P-265 TREBLE CHANCE 18 (V) (M Bryant) S Woodman 7-11-0 M Perrett 86
15 000-5F4 XYLOPHONE 22 (F) (D Butt) Miss L Bower 7-11-0 Mr C Burnett-Wells (7) —

BETTING: 5-4 Fit For Firing, 7-2 Treble Chance, 5-1 Hi' Upham, 8-1 Meryett, 12-1 Fishing Smack, Fleetwood Lass, 16-1 Bara Peg, Proverbial Rose, 20-1 others.

1988: TAMINO 7-11-0 M Richards (20-1) Mrs L Clay 15 ran

FORM FOCUS BUSY MITTENS showed promise over hurdles last term including finishing ¾l 2nd of 17 to Roya Dilemma at Worcester (2m 4f, heavy). FISHING SMACK has made the frame in modest events including 13l 3rd of 9 to Special at Folkestone (2m, good to firm).
FIT FOR FIRING faces an easier task than when under 1l 3rd of 5 to Going Gets Tough at Newbury (2m 4f, good to firm). HI' UPHAM ran best race over fences when staying on strongly at the finish to be under 3l 4th of 18 to Newlar in a valuable Ascot (3m, good to soft) maiden chase on final start.
TREBLE CHANCE has claims on the form of his good 2l 2nd of 9 to Gay Edition at Kempton (2m, good) with BARA PEG 19l away in 5th and NEW GAME a distant 6th and XYLOPHONE a faller when still in contention 3 from home. TREBLE CHANCE latest ran poorly when beaten a distance behind Deep Flash at Sandown (2m 18y, good to firm).
Selection: FIT FOR FIRING

2.15 FRY & POLLARD HANDICAP CHASE (£2,490: 3m 2f) (14 runners)

1 301F11- FOREST RANGER 205 (D,F,S) (K Al-Said) J Edwards 7-12-0 T Morgan 86
2 852PF-P BAYRAM 16 (G,S) (A Wates) T Etherington 7-12-0 E Murphy —
3 125/036- ARDESEE 370 (D,G,S) (Value Enterprises) D Wintle 9-11-13 A Carroll 94
4 1/61PF-1 TROUT ANGLER 27 (F,G,S) (P Trant) Miss P O'Connor 8-11-8 Mr G Upton (3) 91
5 11654P- AUTUMN ZULU 258 (C,G,S) (B Edgeley) Miss L Bower 10-11-4 Mr M Walsh (7) 97
6 142F5-3 DERCANDER 35 (G) (N Clutton) Lady Herries 7-11-4 T Grantham ● 99
7 003/14P- SHANBALLY BOY 301 (D,G,S) (R Holt) D Murray Smith 8-11-3 M Bowlby 81
8 1211P-4 UNICOL 35 (D,S) (D Mullen) S Mellor 7-10-11 M Perrett 97
9 1- HURRY UP HENRY 236 (G,S) (G Harwood) G Harwood 10-10-10 Miss A Harwood (5) 96
10 1F-3 MISTER ED 8 (S) (Gilt-Edged Thoroughbreds Plc) R Curtis 6-10-7 R Goldstein 98
11 0PU/PP- WALKING CANE 225 (F,G) (A Ripley) G Ripley 13-10-1 G Moore —
12 6412PF- SIR WAGER 240 (G,S) (J Homewood) Mrs L Clay 8-10-0 M Richards 94
13 58/440-4 FLEMINGTON 33 (F) (Mrs J Perrin) W Perrin 10-10-0 — 89
14 /P0/UP3 BORENCO 15 (F) (Mrs S Martin) W Kemp 8-10-0 S McKeever (5) 80

Long handicap: Sir Wager 9-11, Flemington 9-7, Borenco 9-5.

BETTING: 7-2 Mister Ed, 4-1 Trout Angler, 5-1 Forest Ranger, 11-2 Hurry Up Henry, 6-1 Dercander, 8-1 Unicol, 10-1 Shanbally Boy, 12-1 Ardesee, 14-1 others.

1988: PELION 8-10-0 B Powell (9-4 fav) J King 8 ran

FORM FOCUS FOREST RANGER led close home when beating River Warrior a head at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, good to firm) in May. TROUT ANGLER made a pleasing reappearance when running on well to beat Fence Judge 1l at Wincanton (3m 1f, firm). Should again go close.
DERCANDER kept on at one pace when a ½l 3rd to Tarville at Worcester (3m, good to soft) with UNICOL (same terms) 2¾l back in 4th. SHANBALLY BOY, having first outing since being pulled up at Warwick (3m1f, heavy) in February, made a winning seasonal debut last term when beating Brickyard by 30l at Fontwell (3m 2f 110y, good to soft).
HURRY UP HENRY took it up 4 out when beating His Express by a comfortable 10l in a hunter chase at Taunton (3m, good) in April. MISTER ED held every chance when falling at the last at Plumpton (3m 1f, good to firm) latest and was remounted to finish a distant 3rd behind multiple scorer High Ham Blues.
Selection: TROUT ANGLER

2.45 SHADDOXHURST CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,057: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

1 UP-653U MALYA MAL 26 (D,F,G,S) (J J Bridger) J Bridger 10-11-10 D Skyrme —
2 FP-0UFP SOLENT LAD 13 (F,G,S) (D Solan) B Stevens 6-10-11 M Stevens —
3 1/P-413 BAD HABITS 33 (D,F,S) (Mrs M Enright) G Enright 9-10-10 R Moore (5) 95
4 022221 MSHAHARA 15 (F) (M Mitchell) P Hedger 11-10-7 I Lawrence 93
5 P0/33P-0 SHAHEAT 16 (D,S) (T Newton) D Gandolfo 8-10-4 W Humphreys 93
6 64/4-32 BURGLARS WALK 50 (F,S) (Albury Racing Ltd) R Curtis 9-10-2 S Mason 80
7 346432- GREENORE PRIDE 242 (G,S) (A Baird Tennis Courts Ltd) P Burgoyne 12-10-1 A Charlton 88
8 5B4103- GREEN RIDGE 296 (CD,G) (D Mullen) S Mellor 10-10-0 I Shoemark ● 99
9 P204-63 MAJOR TOM 15 (F,S) (Mrs J Patty) H Willis 12-10-0 J Leech 88
10 460F60 POWER PUNCH 15 (A Mawson) W Kemp 5-10-0 S McKeever —
11 P0640-5 HAWTHORN JACKS 28 (M Johnston) G Ripley 9-10-0 J Clarke —

Long handicap: Green Ridge 9-12, Major Tom 9-7, Power Punch 9-4, Hawthorn Jacks 9-2.

BETTING: 7-2 Burglars Walk, 4-1 Mshahara, 9-2 Bad Habits, 5-1 Major Tom, 6-1 Green Ridge, 8-1 Greenore Pride, 10-1 Solent Lad, 12-1 Malya Mal, 14-1 others.

1988: AUTUMN ZULU 9-11-11 S Hodgson (7-4 fav) Miss L Bower 8 ran

FORM FOCUS BAD HABITS lost chance with mistakes at the final 2 fences when a 6¾l 3rd to The Shuffler at Huntingdon (3m, good); earlier left clear at the last when beating Landing Board by 12l at Kempton (2m 4f, good to soft). Will appreciate the return to today's trip.
MSHAHARA jumped right throughout when beating St William by 12l in a seller at Fontwell (2m 2f 110y, good to firm) with MAJOR TOM (11lb better off) a never nearer 16l 3rd.
BURGLARS WALK lost touch 7 out when a 20l 2nd to Annette's Venture at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, good) will need to improve on that showing to figure today. GREENORE PRIDE could make no impression on the winner when a 15l 2nd to Shannagary at Uttoxeter (2m 4f, good to soft) in April.
GREEN RIDGE gave best close home when a 1l 3rd to Seven's Specs at Leicester (2m 4f, soft) in February.
Selection: MSHAHARA

3.15 STANFORD NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £1,224: 2m 100yd) (20 runners)

1 21 APOLLO KING 9 (D,F) (Mrs B Edwards) P Mitchell 11-3 D Murphy ● 99
2 010 VAIGLY PERCEPTIVE 14 (D,F) (A Shenston) B Stevens 11-3 M Perrett 88
3 1 RECIDIVIST 34 (D,F) (C Hill) R Hodges 10-12 Mr C Maude (7) 86
4 BROWN PEPPER 20F (W Brown) R Akehurst 10-9 J Leech (5) —
5 COME HALLEY 42F (Ligwale Ltd) R Boss 10-9 T Grantham —
6 DEN'S SONG 55F (D Cooper) W Carter 10-9 — —
7 GREAT HAND 71F (T Riley-Smith) D Wilson 10-9 T Morgan —
8 MR FFITCH (Mrs C Howard) J Ffitch-Heyes 10-9 R Goldstein —
9 ROWHEDGE 508F (Mrs J Perrin) W Perrin 10-9 M Bowlby —
10 TEMPERED POINT (Mrs L Hurlbert) D Elsworth 10-9 — —
11 THE WIDGET MAN (A Ilsley) J Gifford 10-9 R Rowe —
12 UGLY (A Moore) A Moore 10-9 G Moore —
13 2 WINDSOR PARK 13 (BF) (A Caton) R O'Sullivan 10-9 M Kinane 93
14 WYARDS WONDER 258F (P Cook) Miss B Sanders 10-9 — —
15 DIAMOND PRINCESS 27F (S Crown) P Cole 10-4 R Beggan —
16 4 DUNCTON HILL 9 (Mrs R Bates) J White 10-4 K Burke 96
17 2 GOLDEN ANN 46 (E Cohen) G Balding 10-4 J Frost 96
18 KATIE SCARLETT 20F (Mrs M Bryce-Smith) J Bridger 10-4 I Lawrence (3) —
19 ON THE ROCKS (D Bowkett) J Sayers 10-4 M Furlong —
20 PRETTY PRECOCIOUS 43F (G Treglown) J Spearing 10-4 B Powell —

BETTING: 5-2 Windsor Park, 7-2 Apollo King, 5-1 Recidivist, 6-1 Golden Ann, 8-1 Brown Pepper, Diamond Princess, 10-1 Tempered Point, 12-1 Vaigly Perceptive, The Widget Man, 14-1 others.

1988: NICE DYNASTY 4-11-0 M Richards (15-8 jt-fav) O Sherwood 20 ran

FORM FOCUS APOLLO KING was driven out to beat Go Go Gorgeous at Warwick (2m, firm) with DUNCTION HILL (8lb better off) a never nearer 13l 4th. VAIGLY PERCEPTIVE kept on well despite a last flight blunder to beat June's Fancy at Ludlow (2m, firm); latest made some late headway when a 23l 8th to Stay Awake at Catterick (2m, firm).
RECIDIVIST steps up in class after beating Na La Giri by a comfortable 7l on Taunton (2m 110yd, good to firm). BROWN PEPPER was a fair maiden on the Flat and is fit after finishing 11l 10th to Vanroy at Lingfield (1m) last month.
WINDSOR PARK was very heavily backed when a 1½l 2nd to Soneeto on hurdling bow on Lingfield (2m) all-weather earlier this month and can be expected to improve. DIAMOND PRINCESS is another fit after finishing 1¾l 4th to Go South at Lingfield (1m 5f).
GOLDEN ANN made a pleasing hurdling debut when a 15l 2nd to Coe at Sandown (2m, good).
Selection: APOLLO KING

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winner	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
G Balding	3	7	42.9	R Rowe	12	46	26.1
D Murray Smith	7	24	29.2	J Frost	3	13	23.1
D Elsworth	5	19	26.3	P Corrigan	3	13	23.1
J Gifford	20	84	23.8	M Kinane	4	20	20.0
R O'Sullivan	3	15	20.0	M Richards	4	22	18.2
D Grissell	7	35	20.0	S Smith Eccles	3	17	17.6

Appeals procedure to be reviewed

The Jockey Club announced yesterday that it is to look again at the appeals procedure available to those involved in disciplinary hearings.

The move follows the controversial case of the Beverley 11 in which 11 jockeys were fined for allegedly refusing to obey the starter. The case sparked considerable debate on the courses of appeal open to the riders concerned.

The subject was discussed at a Jockey Club meeting last week and David Pipe, the Jockey Club's spokesman, said yesterday: "The stewards have asked the disciplinary committee to review the well-rehearsed arguments and produce a report in due course."

● Prize-money at Haydock Park next year goes up 18 per cent to more than £1.2 million. The Lancashire course's £2 million grandstand is due to open in May.

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

BANGOR

Selections

By Mandarin

12.00 Cavendish Diamond. 12.30 Hey Cottage. 1.00 Sweet Thursday. 1.30 CROCK-NA-NEE (nap). 2.00 Mandavi. 2.30 Duckhaven. 3.00 Stream Bridge. 3.30 Noble Bid.

Michael Seely's selection: 1.30 CROCK-NA-NEE (nap).

Going: good

12.0 YELLOW COLLAR SELLING HURDLE (Div I: £1,604: 2m) (13 runners)

1 241/ VA LUTE 46F (F) (Castle Farm Stud) R Holder 5-11-8 N Mann (7) —
2 6- BACCAROLE 504 (A Strickland) Mrs A Knight 4-11-5 G Knight —
3 500-465 DREAMING STAR 13 (V) (G Blythin) P Anderson 4-11-5 P Verling (3) —
4 EMBALCLA 51F (Mrs J Ward) R O'Leary 4-11-5 M Dwyer —
5 40P- ROUGE ROI 206F (V) (A Cooke) P Evans 4-11-5 T Wall —
6 0UP SEISMIC LINE 18 (B Stevens) B Stevens 4-11-5 K Mooney —
7 P0RP SCOBIE DOUGH 14 (A1 Paper Plc) Miss S Wilton 3-10-7 — —
8 03 CAVENDISH DIAMOND 9 (S Millard) R Simpson 3-10-2 D Gallagher (3) 88
9 5 HEADBEE 9 (J Graves Ltd) M Castell 3-10-2 — —
10 KATICA 72F (Mrs D McCain) D McCain 3-10-2 Mr D McCain (7) —
11 42 LOADPLAN LASS 14 (Loadplan Ltd) C Booth 3-10-2 R Marley ● 99
12 MISS CHALK 71F (A Lomas) M Pipe 3-10-2 P Scudamore 80
13 U60 SUMMERHILL SALLY 9 (J Wilmington) P Leach 3-10-2 H Davies —

BETTING: 13-8 Miss Chalk, 5-2 Loadplan Lass, 6-1 Va Lute, 8-1 Headbee, 10-1 Cavendish Diamond, 12-1 Dreaming Star, 16-1 others.

1988: MATLUB 3-10-7 S Smith Eccles (5-2) Miss S Wilton 11 ran

12.30 MAESFEN NOVICES HURDLE (£2,080: 2m 4f) (18 runners)

1 112-311 HEY COTTAGE 37 (C,D,G,S) (Mrs S Dimond) D McCain 4-11-12 Mr D McCain (7) 96
2 8-14 TARKOVSKY 35 (S) (J Watkins) R Lee 4-11-6 R Greene (7) ● 99
3 8134- BEN HEAD 273 (S) (Anne Duchess Of Westminster) T Forster 7-11-0 H Davies —
4 BIDDING FAIR 1508F (T Laxton) T Laxton 6-11-0 G Bradley —
5 F BLUSTERY FELLOW 27 (Mrs R Humphries) O Sherwood 4-11-0 J Osborne 94
6 BURNT FINGERS 91F (M Pascall) J White 5-11-0 — —
7 FILS DU PARC (J Adam) T Forster 6-11-0 C Llewellyn —
8 00- HEAD LAD 214 (F Lloyd (Penley) Ltd) R Peacock 6-11-0 S J O'Neill —
9 000/ JIM'S TOP 850 (R Haggas) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-0 M Dwyer —
10 55- KAMBA LAD 244 (A Whitehead) J Edwards 6-11-0 D Tegg —
11 0-2 RADICAL VIEWS 20 (D Stoddart) N Gaselee 4-11-0 A Adams (5) 90
12 00- ROYAL FAME 301 (Mrs S Minns) Mrs S Minns 5-11-0 N Coleman —
13 4P/ SALES PROMOTER 1201 (R Price) R Price 6-11-0 R Bellamy (5) —
14 0UP SECRET MEMBER 15 (B) (J Frampton) R Hodges 5-11-0 G McCourt —
15 4-0 STOP TWO 28 (D Mills) M Oliver 5-11-0 J Railton (3) 75
16 BORDER CHERRY (T Bailey) T Bailey 5-10-9 R Dunwoody —
17 20- BRIGAND GIRL 228 (C McNeil) Mrs J Evans 7-10-9 D Gallagher (3) 80
18 0/ COVA CAILE 823 (Mrs K Lloyd) T Bailey 5-10-9 — —

BETTING: 9-4 Blustery Fellow, 7-2 Tarkovsky, 13-2 Hey Cottage, 8-1 Ben Head, 12-1 Radical Views, Kamba Lad, 16-1 Jim's Top, Fils Du Parc, 20-1 Border Cherry, 25-1 others.

1988: STORMWATCH 5-11-6 S McNeill (6-1) D Gandolfo 17 ran

1.0 YELLOW COLLAR SELLING HURDLE (Div II: £1,604: 2m) (12 runners)

1 00/ FOX PATH 14F (Mrs J Lewis) F Jordan 5-11-5 J Lodder (5) —
2 U0PF-3 KINGFISHER BAY 12 (D Chicott) B Palling 4-11-5 C Evans 89
3 00P0-6P SELF RAISING 14 (D Davies) B Preece 4-11-5 R Dunwoody —
4 5/12F-P0 SHARP ORDER 13 (D,F) (B Molloy) Miss S Wilton 4-11-5 G McCourt ● 99
5 406952 CARNBREA FRED 18 (V) (D Emery) J Harris 3-10-7 J A Harris 86
6 ARISIE 64F (G Whitaker) P Leach 3-10-2 H Davies —
7 PP BRIGADIERS GLORY 4 (D Gregory) B McMahon 3-10-2 T Wall —
8 P5 ENCHANTED GODDESS 18 (N Thackeray) M Castell 3-10-2 R Supple (3) —
9 0 FOLLOW THAT TAXI 11 (Mrs M Ashton) N Bycroft 3-10-2 P Niven —
10 MISS MAREVA 186F (Mrs C Riley) J Mackie 3-10-2 S J O'Neill —
11 865 OASIS 16 (J Buxton) J Baker 3-10-2 W McFarland (3) 98
12 36062 SWEET THURSDAY 23 (Mrs C Cruddace) B Stevens 3-10-2 K Mooney 94

BETTING: 2-1 Oasis, 3-1 Sharp Order, 9-2 Sweet Thursday, 6-1 Cambrea Fred, 8-1 Kingfisher Bay, 10-1 Follow That Taxi, 14-1 others.

1988: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

1.30 WYNSTAY HUNT SUPPORTERS CLUB HANDICAP CHASE (£3,030: 2m 4f) (16 runners)

1 259013- FINGEST 218F (D,G,S) (R Ashford) P Evans 6-12-0 T Wall 92
2 280364- HARLEY STREET MAN 257 (F,G,S) (J Powis) M Pipe 8-11-12 P Scudamore ● 99
3 161111- COMRA 294 (C,D,G,S) (P Dales) G Ham 10-11-11 Mr S Burrough (7) 96
4 1U33-34 ANOTHER SCHEDULE 28 (F,G) (Mrs V Black) C Brooks 8-11-11 B de Haan 83
5 40/131-F DUKE'S WHISTLE 18 (F,G) (Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 8-11-10 R Dunwoody 88
6 3314-2P CROWECOPPER 35 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs M Price) B Preece 10-11-7 Gary Lyons (5) 90
7 201UF-4 SURE METAL 26 (D,S) (N Hardman & Partners Ltd) D McCain 8-11-7 G McCourt 95
8 24/U82-3 WEIGHT PROBLEM 60 (B,CD,F,S) (Chase Window) P Bevan 12-11-6 M Dwyer 96
9 23401-3 CROCK-NA-NEE 34 (D,G,S) (D Harrison) O Sherwood 8-11-4 J Osborne 96
10 2P/3P-2P INCANDESCE 13 (D,F,G,S) (H White) J Edwards 10-11-4 D Tegg 93
11 221F3-5 PRIDE HILL 16 (D,G,S) (Mrs B Gittins) F Jordan 7-11-2 J Lodder (5) 88
12 P3F-331 INSPECTOR BEN 11 (D,F,S) (Mrs H Bannister) J Smith 10-10-8 W McFarland (3) 98
13 214-32U COOL RECEPTION 9 (B,G,S) (P Piller) W A Stephenson 8-10-8 C Grant 90
14 48P-444 GOLDEN REDEEMER 27 (CD,F,S) (Mrs E Mise) R Francis 11-10-5 S J O'Neill 81
15 2312-B0 RAGENS BOY 16 (CD,G,S) (D Edwards) Mrs J Evans 8-10-5 D Gallagher (3) 93
16 1-235F2 BROCHE 30 (F,G) (T Blah) Mrs H Parrott 8-10-3 R Bellamy (7) 97

BETTING: 6-4 Crock-Na-Nee, 3-1 Duke's Whistle, 5-1 Harley Street Man, 13-2 Comra, 10-1 Cool Reception, Broche, 14-1 Another Schedule, Crowecopper, 16-1 Incandesce, 20-1 Pride Hill, Inspector Ben, 25-1 others.

1988: WALLY WOMBAT 10-10-0 M Perrett (10-1) M Scudamore 6 ran

2.0 BARKIN DEVELOPMENTS NOVICES CHASE (£2,840: 2m 4f) (16 runners)

1 U0/00F-1 REDGRAVE DEVIL 22 (F,S) (T Bish) M Pipe 7-11-1 P Scudamore 84
2 046PP- ARCTIC ADVENTURE 288 (M Proudfoot) Miss J Eaton 6-11-0 B Storey —
3 03110/ CAFFIERI 725 (S) (J Upson) J Upson 6-11-0 R Supple (3) —
4 0//2305- COUTURE COLOR 400 (Couture Marketing Ltd) J Mackie 6-11-0 S J O'Neill —
5 53212-0 GOOD TONIC 32 (S) (Lady Wates) T Etherington 6-11-0 T Pitfield (3) —
6 3368-24 HAZELEELS DELIGHT 21 (D Davies) P Davies 9-11-0 D Tegg —
7 53P-6P HEADLEYS BRIDGE 7 (S) (J Byrne) Miss J Eaton 7-11-0 Ger Lyons (3) —
8 4P03/00- HITCHENSTOWN 139F (S) (Oaklea Bloodstock) M O'Neill 6-11-0 M Meagher —
9 124/400- LORD TORENAGA 252 (S) (C Pilkington) F Walwyn 6-11-0 K Mooney —
10 2111/0- MANDAVI 229 (F,G,S) (Exors Mrs K Anderson) N Henderson 6-11-0 R Dunwoody —
11 3202P-4 NODFORMS DILEMMA 39 (F,G,S) (P Stamp) O Sherwood 6-11-0 J Osborne —
12 0/ OCEAN ROGUE 975 (P Hamer) W Clay 8-11-0 — —
13 04P46B- RACHAN MASTER 274 (T Corden) A J Wilson 7-11-0 H Davies 82
14 22256-4 SMITHY BEAR 43 (S) (Mrs J John) Will Price 7-11-0 A Price (7) ● 99
15 00/05-32 SPEECH 11 (P Piller) W A Stephenson 6-11-0 C Grant 92
16 44F42-R AMETHEA 40 (Lady Bailey) T Bailey 7-10-9 J Railton (3) 96

BETTING: 5-4 Redgrave Devil, 4-1 Speech, 6-1 Lord Torenaga, 15-2 Mandavi, 12-1 Nodforms Dilemma,

1988: COMRA 9-11-0 B Powell (3-1) G Ham 9 ran

2.30 BARKIN DEVELOPMENTS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,495: 3m) (8 runners)

1 12436-0 GUNNER MAC 27 (G,S) (F McHale) N Bycroft 6-11-10 P Niven ● 99
2 13211-3 DUCKHAVEN 42 (B,BF,G,S) (Kingsley Holidays Ltd) J Baker 6-11-9 W McFarland (3) 90
3 110PP0- TEMPERABLE 226F (D,S) (P Rich) J Thomas 5-11-2 D Tegg 92
4 232/550- TRUE SPARTAN 337 (S) (T Eckley) G Price 9-11-0 B Dowling 98
5 132FF-2 WEETMANS WAGON 18 (G,S) (E Weetman) B McMahon 5-10-12 T Wall 95
6 380P0-P CALLOPE 7 (R Reynolds) M Oliver 5-10-0 J Railton (3) 93
7 2U0-425 BROMPTON ROAD 4 (D,G) (J Piercy) D Moffatt 6-10-0 C Dennis (5) 91
8 1243/00- ALICE'S BOY 436 (S) (Mrs S Roberts) R Francis 8-10-0 S J O'Neill —

Long handicap: Callope 9-13, Brompton Road 9-13, Alice's Boy 9-0.

BETTING: 6-4 Duckhaven, 3-1 Weetmans Wagon, 11-2 Brompton Road, 8-1 Gunner Mac, Temperable,

3.0 EBF CROSS FOXES INTERMEDIATE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,921: 3m) (5 runners)

1 11-1111 IRISH RED 63 (D,F,S) (Hathaway Roofing Ltd) W A Stephenson 7-11-10 C Grant 93
2 25P211- STREAM BRIDGE 242 (D,S) (Mrs D Stamp) O Sherwood 8-11-1 J Osborne ● 99
3 04P201/ CROWN GREEN 580 (F) (T Laxton) T Laxton 7-10-6 G Bradley —
4 P0U/PP-0 BRAVE SONG 15 (I Glenister) A Jones 10-10-0 J Lodder —
5 0F04PP- CLASSEY BOY 284 (A Kaplan) G Ham 8-10-0 H Davies —

Long handicap: Brave Song 8-8, Classey Boy 8-8.

BETTING: 8-11 Irish Red, 7-4 Stream Bridge, 8-1 Crown Green, 33-1 Brave Song, Classey Boy.

1988: COMPTON PARK 7-10-9 S Smith Eccles (7-2) J King 12 ran

3.30 RED COAT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,024: 2m) (18 runner)

1 4P-62 PATRICK JAMES 16 (D West) F Jordan 4-11-10 J Lodder (5) 86
2 522/52 XHAI 11 (B) (Mrs C Darby) R Simpson 7-11-8 D Gallagher (3) 97
3 542113 NOBLE BID 13 (D,F) (G Byatt) Miss S Wilton 5-11-7 G McCourt 87
4 P/3343 TELEMAHOS 11 (P Parkinson) J Roberts 7-11-6 C Llewellyn 89
5 0-06644 TARA BOY 18 (D Pickering) R Francis 4-11-5 R Bellamy (5) 84
6 0200-13 OLYMPIC CHALLENGER 11 (B,D,F) (Mrs I Ryles) J Mackie 5-11-4 S J O'Neill 94
7 3-32 RODCHENKO 73 (Miss S Main) T Caldwell 4-11-2 Peter Caldwell 98
8 00-36 LAKE MISSION 37 (BF) (W Montgomery) D Nicholson 4-11-1 R Dunwoody 87
9 063-8 SULUK 21 (A White) R Hollinshead 4-11-0 Gary Lyons (5) 94
10 825520- LEGAL COIN 233 (B Moseley) K White 5-10-13 V Smith (5) 85
11 60003-2 INTO THE RED 48 (J Huckle) C Trietline 5-10-12 P Dever 94
12 0/0640-P FLEXIBLE FRIEND 47 (B) (A Smith) M Charles 9-10-12 J Railton (3) 85
13 62/555- JEASSU 317 (Mrs R Mills) A J Wilson 6-10-12 H Davies 96
14 0 DENBOY 13 (Royal-Blue Racing Plc) B Stevens 7-10-9 K Mooney —
15 0/500-46 ABBOTTS VIEW 54 (Dr P Brown) C Brooks 5-10-6 P Scudamore 88
16 0/032U3- PORT OF TIME 340 (J Allen) J Allen 5-10-2 — ● 99
17 003/0 COMEDY BASIN 48 (Mrs J Spielman) R Holder 6-10-0 N Coleman —
18 00F60/5 SOLAR MASTER 9 (P Rich) J Thomas 5-10-0 D Tegg 82

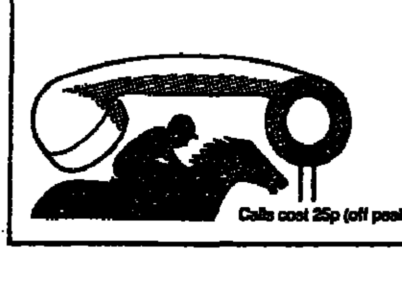
Long handicap: Comedy Basin 9-13, Solar Master 9-10.

BETTING: 3-1 Xhai, 9-2 Rodchenko, 15-2 Noble Bid, Lake Mission, 10-1 Olympic Challenger, Into The Red, 12-1 Abbotts View, 14-1 Suluk, Patrick James, 15-1 Telemahos, 25-1 others.

1988: BABY COME HOME 4-10-2 S G Knight (14-1) Mrs A Knight 17 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winner	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
M Pipe	14	33	42.4	C Grant	11	20	55.0
G Ham	4	10	40.0	P Niven	3	7	42.9
J Mackie	4	15	26.7	P Scudamore	16	51	31.4
J Edwards	16	67	23.9	J Lodder	4	15	26.7
W A Stephenson	4	20	20.0	G Bradley	6	24	25.0
R Lee	5	27	18.5	B Dowling	7	38	18.4

THE TIMES RACING SERVICE

Live commentary and classified results
Call 0898 500 123
Mandarin's Form Guide and rapid results
Call 0898 100 123
Calls cost 25p (off peak) and 38p (standard & peak) per minute inc VAT

Conflict must be slammed out of court

SPORT IN THE 1990s

Tennis is greater than its personalities, but massive egos may again override the good of the game as it enters a new era, argues Tony Pickard, coach of Stefan Edberg

TOMMY HINDLEY



Top dogs: Pickard relaxes on the lawn with Edberg, the best of whom he believes the world may not yet have seen, and large canine friend

The administrators of tennis will have to answer one important question at the start of the new decade. Is the game going to degenerate into a battle for power between the heads of the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and the Association of Tour Professionals (ATP), or is it going to move forward peacefully to a new era of prosperity and stability?

Only those at the top of the ITF, the governing body of world tennis, and the ATP, which takes over the running of the men's professional tour in 1990, can decide that. Historically, the omens are not good. Tennis has shown an extraordinary lust for conflict over the past 20 years and my main fear is that once again massive egos will override the good of the game.

There has been a total lack of communication in the dispute over the Grand Slam Cup, an eight-man tournament based on points accumulated in the four grand slams next year and scheduled by the ITF for next December. When the offer came for a $8 million tournament, both sides should have got round the table and decided to stage an event which would benefit the whole of tennis, not just one side or the other.

The idea of using Wimbledon and the other grand slams as qualifying events for the Grand Slams Cup in my opinion detracts from the grand slams themselves, which, from the players' point of view, are the most important events in the game. I find that tragic and I hope some formula can be found quickly to resolve the problems.

But it is not just the administrators who are on trial. The players have pushed for a long time to have more say in the running of their own tour and, now that they have it, along with the tournament directors they will have to earn the respect of everyone in the game.

The players themselves have to support the tour wholeheartedly, even if that means making personal sacrifices at times, both on and off the court. They have to promote the game to public and sponsors and realize that the way they conduct themselves off the court is as important as their behaviour on it. I believe that the present top players have transformed the image of the game. They have to make sure that continues.

In turn, the ATP has to be flexible in its approach. It has been laid down in stone how many tournaments the top 50 players have to play. The players themselves should have freedom to decide how much they want to play. The risk is that one of the top players will get injured, which is not only bad for the player, but for the game and for the public.

Edberg and Becker will possibly have to play 24 weeks' competitive tennis next season, much of it concentrated into a short space of time. They will be well rewarded for it, but only if they are successful.

There have been a lot of accusations that too much money is coming into the game, but the money is only good if you win and, believe me, there are plenty of players coming along to take your place if you do not. That is no different from footballers, baseball players, golfers or any other professional sportsman.

On the court, I believe the main rivalry over the early part of the decade will be between Edberg and Becker. They seem to have been around a long time, yet are still only 23 and 22 respectively and, if the final of the Masters in New York is anything to go by, the best of both is still to come.

In my view it is important for the game that they stay right at the top. First, because just as the new generation of hard-hitting baseline players reflects the influence of Bjorn Borg, so the next generation will see Edberg and Becker and copy their style. Second, because the barriers between the clay court player on the one hand and the grass court player on the other can be broken down.

Borg won Wimbledon five times without being a natural serve-and-volleyer, Edberg reached the final of the French on clay without being a natural clay court player. If he could have won that – and it is one of his targets for 1990 – he could have changed the whole image of the game.

In the last 15 years we have seen the rise of countries like Sweden and Germany eclipsing the traditional tennis-playing nations of Australia and the United States. Sweden can no longer boast four players in the top 10, as it could a few years ago, but it still has several in the top 100 because it has a strong structure.

Germany is the same. It might not produce another Becker or Steffi Graf for a time but it will continue to be strong because facilities and coaching are so good. South America is starting to produce good players – Alberto Mancini and Martin Jaite, for example – while the United States and Australia are showing a revival without as yet producing a young player who threatens to go right to the top. But the rewards at the top are still growing and that means that the 1990s will be more competitive and more international than ever.

Sadly, I cannot see Britain's players sharing those riches or see this country produce a champion before the end of the decade. That is not the fault of the children, the younger players or the coaches. For me, it is the fault of the LTA. The coaches need coaching, not just in techniques of the game, but in the modern approaches to training an international player.

I get invited to coaching sessions and seminars round the country and I see the enthusiasm that is there. I do not think we can produce a world No. 1, but it is impossible that we could produce a top-50 player. All it needs is some leadership and direction and, above all, some understanding of what it takes to be a professional tennis player these days.

The world of tennis has changed out of all recognition and I just do not think the coaches realize the amount of time and dedication it takes to be a top player. I know I am not the first to say it and I will not be the last, but the structure is there.

TONY PICKARD

Age: 54

Career details: Great Britain Davis Cup player, 1958-63; captain, 1973-76. Captained British team to victory in the Galea Cup for under-21 international teams, 1972. First spotted Stefan Edberg in 1982 and coached Edberg to two Australian titles and one Wimbledon title.

The people are there, the talent is there, there is an enormous amount of people mad keen to see it happen – and that includes the LTA. They just do not know how to make it happen.

The answer is pure hard work. Edberg was brought up with the feelings that he had to work hard. If he doesn't work when I'm not with him, I know as soon as I see him that he has not and I work 10 times harder.

Take Jeremy Bates as an example. Super bloke. Could have been three times as good as he is. Nobody pushed him and shoved him and made him do it. They just left him. Without proper direction, the talented young players drift and then go out of the game. I honestly believe that, with the right kind of direction and leadership and the right motivation, we could see a British Wimbledon champion sooner rather than later. But I do not see it happening under the present system.

Technically, the influence of the more powerful wide-bodied rackets is beginning to be felt, though it has not really affected the top professionals. Chang is the only one since Gene Mayer to do anything with a wide-bodied racket. There is more emphasis on power, but the great players have that, anyway, because of their natural timing and touch. The new technology in rackets is aimed more for the average player.

I am less able to comment on the women's game. My feeling is that it badly needs someone to challenge Graf's dominance. Navratilova cannot go on forever, Evert has gone and there are not that many waiting behind them. Monica Seles, a refreshingly aggressive player and a refreshingly vibrant character, and Jennifer Capriati could be the new faces of the Nineties. Certainly, they need a few.

Finally, some more immediate questions for the next decade. Can Lendl win Wimbledon? In my opinion, no. It is too late for him and too many players know how to play on grass. I would love to see him win it, if Edberg does not, but I have a gut feeling that he has missed out. Can Stefan be No. 1? The simple answer is: ask him. He talks about nothing else to me, but it is up to him whether he is prepared to put in the time and effort to get there.

My own hope for the 1990s is that everyone in tennis gets together and realizes that the game is more important than the personalities. Tennis is a fabulous game and it is there for everyone to share in and enjoy. The sooner that is understood the better.

● *Interview: Andrew Longmore*

TOMORROW

Steve Davis: Can the snooker boom last?

BADMINTON

Rivalries renewed in finals of nationals

By Richard Eaton

The two best singles rivalries of the 1980s materialized together for the first time in yesterday's finals of the English national championships, sponsored by Oracle UK, at Crawley. Darren Hall, the holder and European champion, versus Stephen Baddeley, the top seed and Commonwealth champion, and Fiona Smith, four-times champion, versus Helen Troke, the Commonwealth champion, had an attractive ring about it.

However, the 1989-90 finals were not the most promotable for several years and potentially the best for television only because the billing sounded good. These four players provided proof in Monday's semi-finals that individual English players still maintained a higher standard.

Hall revealed glimpses in his 15-3, 15-11 victory over Steve Butler of the blistering speed that can sweep any opponent off his feet. The result was a revenge for Hall's surprising loss to his friend, the No. 3 seed, in the final of the Commonwealth Cup three weeks ago. His intense motivation was frequently evident. It was hard to explain, therefore, the lapses, perhaps in concentration, that allowed a comfortable 6-0 lead in the second game to slip to a two-point deficit.

For the second year in succession Baddeley was taken close to the limit in a long semi-final, this time by Anders Nielsen, the much-improved Canadian Open champion. Baddeley's angular frame was aching with effort by the end of his 15-9, 8-15, 15-7 win and shortly afterwards he had little left to offer in the mixed doubles. He and Gillian Gowers failed to take their expected slot in the finals.

The other Commonwealth champion exorcized a ghost in reaching the final. Helen Troke suffered one of her most nervy and painful defeats against Jo Muggeridge in last year's quarter-finals, but this time dealt calmly with a 5-7 deficit in the second game to beat Muggeridge 11-2, 11-7. There was rarely much doubt that Fiona Smith, the England No. 1, would succeed during her 11-4, 11-8 semi-final win over Suzanne Louis.

RESULTS: Men's singles: Semi-finals: S Baddeley (Sussex) bt A Nielsen (Surrey), 15-9, 8-15, 15-7; D Hall (Essex) bt S Butler (Warwicks), 15-3, 15-11. **Men's doubles: Semi-finals:** M Brown (Yorks) and A Goode (Herts) bt M Johnson (Devon) and A Saltidge (Herts), 15-11, 15-12; A Fairhurst and C Hunt (Lancs) bt N Ponting (Herts) and D Wright (Yorks), 15-8, 15-13. **Women's singles: Semi-finals:** F Smith (Surrey) bt S Louis (Devon), 11-4, 11-8; H Troke (Herts) bt J Muggeridge (Kent), 11-2, 11-7. **Women's doubles: Semi-finals:** G Clark (Surrey) and G Gowers (Herts) bt J Muggeridge (Kent) and J Wallwork (Lancs), 15-3, 15-5; K Chapman (Sussex) and S Sankey (Lancs) bt C Johnson (Essex) and C Palmer (Herts), 17-14, 15-8. **Mixed doubles: Semi-finals:** M Brown (Yorks) and J Wallwork (Lancs) bt S Baddeley (Sussex) and G Gowers (Herts), 15-3, 15-5; A Goode (Herts) and G Clark (Surrey) bt M Johnson (Devon) and K Chapman (Sussex), 15-11, 15-2.

NETBALL

Life membership for men's efforts

By Louise Taylor

Gordon Padley and Brian Worrell are the first men to be awarded honorary life membership of the All England Netball Association (AENA). They join a select band of 16 people who have had their services to the sport recognized in such fashion.

In his capacity as honorary treasurer of the association, Padley was instrumental in the AENA becoming a public limited company, and the introduction of its youth trust. He has also been heavily involved in the development of umpiring.

As publicity officer for 10 years, Worrell, from Hemel Hempstead, who retired recently, has done much to earn the sport coverage in the local and national media. Liz Nicholl, the AENA's chief executive, said: "Brian has got us some outstanding publicity and has always been amazingly professional."

Worrell's wife, Cathy, was also presented with a special award for her services to grass-roots community netball in Hertfordshire.

Anne Hamill, from Northern Ireland, has been elected secretary of the recently established European Federation of Netball Associations.

The English Schools under-16 squad to tour Australia next June has been announced. But before boarding the plane the girls will have to raise £700 each towards the cost of the trip, which is £1,400 per head, with the shortfall made up by Sports Council money directed towards the English Schools Netball Association.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS UNDER-16 SQUAD (to tour Australia): J Hallewell (Millfield, Somerset); J Bassiby (Wisewood Secondary, Sheffield), N Kelleher (Beckett RC, Nottinghamshire), C Sayer (The Hurst Community School, Hampshire), K Oldfield (Altrincham Grammar, Cheshire), Z Spinner (Woodford County High, Essex), A Elliott (Brockworth Comprehensive, Gloucestershire), S Aylett (Hallmead Senior, Essex), A Wilcoxson (Nottingham High), E Steadman (The Latymer School, London). Reserves: A Wasmer (Presdale, Hertfordshire), T Kemp (Angmering, Sussex).

ENGLISH SCHOOLS UNDER-18 SQUAD: C Marshall (Sacred Heart of Mary, Essex); J Lee (Basildon Sixth Form College, Essex), C Hobson (Havering Technical College, Essex), D Moore (Holy Cross, Greater Manchester), L Drewer (South East Essex Sixth Form College), C Torpenden (Rochester GS, Kent), Z Zinsan (Albany Comprehensive, Middlesex), A West (Worthing Sixth Form College, Sussex), K Sweeney (Holy Cross, Greater Manchester), M Whallett (Luton Sixth Form College, Bedfordshire). Reserves: N Mercer (Maidstone GS, Kent); S Bibby (Deanery High School, Greater Manchester).

GOLF

One more honour for Faldo

By Mitchell Platts
Golf Correspondent

Nick Faldo was feted in London once again yesterday when he was named the Ritz Club's Golfer of the Year less than 48 hours after receiving BBC Television's Sports Personality of the Year award.

It was additional evidence that this year he was the golfer of the year, even if Severiano Ballesteros and Tom Watson were the leading candidates for golfer of the decade. Faldo, aged 32, has also been honoured by the Sports Writers' Association and named world player of the year by Golf Digest of America.

He will waste little time in increasing his international reputation in the next decade when he intends to play both in Australia and the United States early in the new year. In April he will defend the Masters at Augusta and he will be seen more in Europe now that he has resigned membership of the US PGA Tour.

"First, after a good rest with the family at home, I'll jet out to see David Leadbetter to give the swing a good check," Faldo said. "I have no hesitation in giving David the credit for my improvement in the second half of this decade; the key now is to keep it going. What I would most like to do is win the US Open and US PGA Championship to complete a full house of the majors."

Faldo received the Ritz Club Charity Trophy and an extensive set of glasses. He also received two cheques totalling £4,000 on behalf of the Golf Foundation and the PGA European Tour Benevolent Trust.

There are eight monthly Ritz Club awards which, together with that for Europe's golfer of the year, have resulted in a total of £60,000 being won over three years for the Golf Foundation and the Benevolent Trust. Faldo also presented to Ronan Rafferty the Vardon Trophy for being No. 1 in the Volvo Order of Merit in 1989.

● The PGA Tour in the United States yesterday officially endorsed the Sony Rankings for the world's leading golfers. The rankings, presently topped by the Australian, Greg Norman, and Faldo, will also have changes to its format next season.

Points will be awarded to golfers for their performances every week, determined by the strength of the field at each tournament. The Masters, US Open, British Open, PGA Championship and Players' Championship will continue to have pre-determined point scales.

The Sony Ranking was established in 1986 and assesses players on performances over a three-year rolling period, weighted in favour of more recent results.

CRICKET

De Silva's rearguard action

Hobart (Reuter) – A pugnacious display by Aravinda de Silva inspired a fightback by Sri Lanka yesterday after unbeaten centuries by Steve Waugh and Dean Jones, of Australia, had set the touring side 522 to win the second Test match here.

At the close on the fourth day, Sri Lanka were 166 for three in their second innings with de Silva 64 not out, having put on 72 for the fourth wicket with Arjuna Ranatunga, the captain.

Australia, with an eight-run lead on first innings, declared at their lunch score of 513 for five. Waugh, 134 not out, and Jones, 118, added an unbeaten 260 for the sixth wicket at more than a run a minute.

De Silva, who came to Australia with a Test average of 25.38, will leave the country with a reputation as a stroke player of the highest class, having hit 167, 75 and now 64 not out in three Test innings.

Waugh returned from the 4-0 Ashes defeat of England with a similar reputation and a series average of 126.50 but he had to wait until Tuesday to score his first hundred on Australian soil.

It was a typical Waugh effort, full of flashing aggression and fluent cover drives. Resuming in the morning on 77, with Australia at 387 for five, Waugh raced to three figures off 111 deliveries and including 11 fours.

Jones's century was a more sedate affair, taking 152 balls, and the right-hander was fortunate to survive a confident appeal for caught-behind off Graeme Labrooy when he had added nine to his overnight 51.

Waugh was dropped in the gully by Gurusinha when 112, but by then the Sri Lankans had been torn to shreds by electric running between the wickets. It was just a matter of whether the touring side could manage to avoid defeat.

Sri Lanka, needing to bat for 10 hours to repeat the draw they achieved in the first Test, started badly when Mahanama fell leg-before to Campbell, the fast bowler, with only six on the board.

Gurusinha and Dhammika Ranatunga took the score to 53 before Gurusinha feuded a bouncer from Hughes to Rod Tucker, the substitute fielder, in the gully. Gurusinha scored 20.

Ranatunga, five runs short of his 50, was annoyed by his dismissal. He chased a delivery from Hughes wide outside his off stump and edged a catch to Healy, the wicketkeeper.

At 94 for three Sri Lanka were facing their sixteenth defeat in 29 Tests but de Silva and Arjuna Ranatunga set about a recovery.

De Silva was irrepressible, despite the situation. All but 20 of his 64 runs came in boundaries. A superb four through the covers brought up his 50. The next ball from Sleep, the leg-spinner, was deposited over mid-off to the fence.

Sleep should have removed de Silva shortly before the close when the diminutive right-hander hit his long hop to backward square, where Alderman put down the chance. Ranatunga ended the day 25 not out.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 224 (R J Ratnayake 6 for 66).

Second Innings

M A Taylor c Gurusinha b P A de Silva	106
D C Boon c Ratnayake b Labrooy	0
T M Moody c Tillekeratne b Ratnayake	5
M G Hughes c Gurusinha b Ratnayake	30
*A R Border b P A de Silva	85
D M Jones not out	118
S R Waugh not out	134
Extras (b 2, lb 5, w 4, nb 22)	33
Total (5 wkts dec)	513

P R Sleep, †I A Healy, G D Campbell and T M Alderman did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1; 2-10; 3-77; 4-240; 5-253.

BOWLING: Labrooy 22-3-100-1 (3nb); Ratnayake 35-5-125-2 (4w, 5nb); Ratnayake 19-1-86-0 (4nb); E A R de Silva 21-2-89-0 (1nb); P A de Silva 18-1-85-2 (4nb); Ramanayake 10-0-49-0 (4nb).

SRI LANKA: First Innings 216 (R S Mahanama 85, P A de Silva 75).

Second Innings

R S Mahanama lbw b Campbell	5
D Ranatunga c Healy b Hughes	45
A P Gurusinha c sub b Hughes	20
P A de Silva not out	64
*A Ranatunga not out	25
Extras (b 3, lb 1, nb 3)	7
Total (3 wkts)	166

J R Ratnayake, †H P Tillekeratne, E A R de Silva, R J Ratnayake, G F Labrooy and C P Ramanayake to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-53, 3-84.

BOWLING: Alderman 16-3-37-0 (3nb); Campbell 16-3-55-1; Sleep 14-5-29-0; Hughes 10-0-41-2.

MOTOR RACING

Ferrari 'made bad move to Britain'

Rome (Reuter) – Steve Nichols, the McLaren designer who has joined Ferrari, has criticized John Barnard, whom he replaced, for moving the Italian team's project operations to Britain.

In an interview in the *Gazzetta dello Sport* newspaper, Nichols, who designed the McLaren Formula One car that won 15 of the 16 races in the 1988 world championship, said Ferrari had to defend its image as the ambassador of Italian racing.

The design team must be centred again on Ferrari's headquarters at Maranello, the American said. "John atrophied the technical and human potential of the men of Maranello by moving the entire project centre to Guildford."

Ferrari's lean three-year partnership with Barnard was frayed by his refusal to work at Maranello, operating instead from Guildford.

Nichols, who takes over research and technical responsibility on the track, said: "The brains who design the future [Ferrari Formula One car] must again be concentrated in Italy."

LACROSSE

US college champions remember Lockerbie

The American college men's lacrosse champions, Syracuse University, who begin a 10-day tour of England next week, will visit Lockerbie for a memorial service for their students killed in the air disaster (Peter Tatlow writes).

For England the tour is a selection trial for the World Cup in Perth, Australia, next July. A squad of 33 players will be reduced to about 25 after England, coached by Mike Roberts, has met Syracuse in four games.

The strong Syracuse University line-up includes the Gait brothers, of Canada.

ITINERARY: December 31: Didsbury. **January 2:** Hyde. **January 4:** Heywood. **January 7:** Orpington.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Play-off picture cloudy

New York (Reuter) – The National Football League play-off picture failed to clear up as the New Orleans Saints upset the Philadelphia Eagles 30-20 on Monday to leave only three teams sure of post-season berths.

Seven play-off spots were still up for grabs among 13 teams as four division titles had yet to be claimed after 15 weeks of the 16-week schedule.

The Eagles could have clinched a wild-card berth with a victory but instead fell a game behind the New York Giants in the National Football Conference (NFC) Eastern Division.

The Giants and the San Francisco 49ers, NFC Western Division champions, have clinched play-off spots, along with the American Football Conference's Denver Broncos.

The NFL's intricate system of breaking ties to determine play-off eligibility will be well tested after the next round of games – three are scheduled on Saturday, 10 on Sunday and a possibly pivotal clash between the Cincinnati Bengals and the Minnesota Vikings is slated for Christmas Day on Monday.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/P	Runs to resort	Weather + temp (5pm)	°C	Last snow fall
AUSTRIA								
St Anton	20	65	fair	heavy	art	fair	1	19/12
Powder on two artificial snow runs at Galzig								
FRANCE								
Chamonix	–	–	–	–	–	snow	3	19/12
Resort closed but snow falling down to 1200m								
Tignes	20	110	good	powder	closed	snow	0	19/12
Excellent snow on glacier but poor visibility								
SWITZERLAND								
Grindelwald	–	–	–	–	–	fine	8–	
Resort closed								
Verbier	10	40	good	fair	closed	cloud	–3	19/12
Fresh snow giving good skiing above 2000m								
USA								
Jackson Hole	30	90	good	powder	good	snow	–4	19/12
Powder on a firm base								

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SCHOOLS FOOTBALL

Programme of fixtures lessens for Winchester

By George Chesterton

For many independent schools like Winchester, Bradfield and Eton, little more than casual games continue after New Year as they turn to other disciplines, whereas other schools, such as Wolverhampton, King's Chester and Bury, continue with a full programme.

Forest, Repton and Elizabeth College, Guernsey all lost only once in the autumn term. Forest owed much to a sound defence, which was masterminded by Heyes at the back and Marriott in midfield. They were given confidence by an outstanding goalkeeper in O'Neill. Their defeat was by Repton, who enjoyed the bonus in their side of Hollander, an American goalkeeper of great ability. Sreevalson played as sweeper with good effect and Tipper used his speed to score 18 of Repton's goals.

King Edward's Witley lost only three matches and these were all by a margin of one goal. Malvern did well to win 10 times, considering there were no outstanding players in the side, although James did score 20 goals. QEGS Blackburn were strong, as always, as the choice of three in the schools selected XIs indicated, these were Gorton, Gregson and Ashworth. Jardingly, with a strong athletic side had much success as did Lancing with their captain, Brown-Peterside, being the key man.

AUTUMN TERM RECORDS

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Aldenham	14	5	6	3	17	11
Alleyn's	8	3	1	4	16	16
Ardingly	16	12	1	3	37	16
Bolton	17	7	5	5	37	26
Bradfield	13	7	1	5	18	19
Brentwood	11	2	2	7	14	21
Bury	13	14	1	8	26	30
Charterhouse	14	7	3	4	23	12
Chigwell	15	8	2	5	23	18
Elizabeth Coll, Guernsey	8	8	0	1	22	5
Eton	16	9	3	4	37	15
Forest	15	10	4	1	32	15
Hampton	17	7	2	8	30	17
Highgate	16	2	2	14	16	43
Holme GS	16	8	4	4	37	22
John Lyon	17	7	4	6	38	24
Kimbolton	12	4	2	6	13	25
King's, Chester	24	10	4	10	41	60
King Edward's, Witley	13	7	3	3	28	12
Lancing	17	11	4	2	38	11
Malvern	16	10	1	5	37	22
Manchester GS	19	10	3	6	36	28
Millfield	7	5	2	0	28	6
Oswestry	22	10	2	10	42	32
Repton	15	11	3	1	46	15
Shrewsbury	15	7	4	4	25	24
St Edmund's, Canterbury	15	6	1	8	28	24
QEGS, Blackburn	22	14	3	5	58	29
Wellingborough	19	9	3	7	15	20
Westminster	16	4	3	9	22	28
Winchester	12	1	0	11	7	29
Wolverhampton GS	15	6	3	6	40	25

Quality among the quantity

What are the best sports books of 1989? Specialists on* The Times *give their verdicts. Today: STUART JONES on football

THE BEST OF THE BOOKS

Amid the usual host of inconsequential autobiographies credited to footballers who have reached scarcely the halfway line of their careers, three more profound tomes to be published this year stand out. They feature in turn a player of genuine stature, British managerial giants, and an analysis of the domestic game.

In *Finney – A Football Legend*, Paul Agnew looks back over the career of the versatile forward. It started humbly. He was sternly advised by his father to continue earning six shillings a week as an apprentice plumber rather than accept Preston North End's offer to learn a different trade for eight times as much. Finney later turned down a princely sum (literally, since the potential benefactor was of royal extraction) to join Palermo.

For Preston and England he was, in the words of Tommy Docherty, "the perfect player, a football dream". But was he better than his international colleague, Matthews? The question is debated by a jury of experts in a chapter and, not surprisingly, the verdict lies in Finney's favour.

He closes the book himself with his own version of England's greatest team and, curiously, he chooses Keegan as an inside forward in preference to Bobby Charlton.

Few would argue with Johnny Rogan's selection in *The Football Managers*, except Graham Taylor. By far the youngest of the 10, he has yet to earn the right to accompany the likes of Sir Matt Busby and Sir Alf Ramsey in the hall of managerial fame.

The author, more accustomed to appraising leaders in the field of music, calls on the managers to illuminate their own tales. Sir Alf, for instance, graphically describes his dismissal by the Football Association in 1974. "I thought I was going to be hanged," he says.

Don Revie, who negotiated his own departure from the England job, and Bobby Robson, the incumbent, are included with Bill Nicholson, Bill Shankly, Jock Stein, Bob Paisley, and the controversial Brian Clough. "If you were a racehorse," Clough once told Eddie Gray, of Leeds United, "they would have shot you five years ago".

Alex Fynn and Lynton Guest spray vitriolic bullets into administrative figures in *The Secret Life Of Football*. They examine the recent past and predict a dark future unless certain measures are taken to correct faults which, they say, have brought the domestic game "to the brink of disaster".

They point out that Europe's most powerful clubs will inevitably form a Continental super league which is unlikely to include an English representative. Glasgow Rangers alone in Britain has "an international outlook" and can claim to be a suitable candidate.

Nor does the withering, albeit justified, criticism end there. If the game is not run by one body, is not marketed imaginatively, remains complacent to the dangers of hooliganism, and ignores the interest of supporters, a chilling warning is issued. "The country which invented the game will lose the fight to compete on the international stage."

● *Finney – A Football Legend* by Paul Agnew (Carnegie Press, £14.95).

● *The Football Managers* by Johnny Rogan (MacDonald Queen Anne Press, £11.95).

● *The Secret Life of Football* by Alex Fynn and Lynton Guest (MacDonald Queen Anne Press, £11.95).

Beware of sportsmen sporting moustaches



Souness: a man of force



I shall have to confess: it was a rather splendid moment for me when Michael Knighton's bid for Manchester United suddenly got complicated and began to assume the character of a soap opera. It was nothing to do with Knighton's self-confessed shy and retiring nature; it was nothing to do with a dislike of change; it was nothing to do with Knighton's ball-juggling skills. It was do with Knighton's moustache.

There are occasional sweet moments in life when one's deeply held beliefs seem to be confirmed by events. Whether these are the workings of God, of the Green movement, or of sporting prowess, there is a profoundly serious pleasure to be tasted here.

But sweeter by far are the moments that confirm one's irrational prejudices. There are moments of real life that appear to justify all of one's most foolish, capricious, unjust, nasty, fallacious and downright unbalanced principles of existence.

Now I have a strange and disturbing prejudice against men with moustaches. Moustaches are, of course, phenomena frequently encountered in the butch regions of the sporting world, and I am something of an expert in the subject.

Closer examination of the smudge of ink with the byline on this column might lead the reader to hilarity or plain bewilderment. I wear a beard myself: rather stunningly pard-like, that's me. But there is a world of difference between a full beard and an unsupported moustache. Whatever else you can say about bygone boys, they have unquestionably acquired for themselves freedom from the razor.

But a moustache combines the worst of two worlds: all the time-wasting of shaving, and all the unsubtle self-advertisement of hirsuteness. No god can come from an unsupported moustache. An actor friend of mine, when cast as a murderer and a cad, instantly grew a moustache, and the character sprung fully formed from him. His subsequent acquisition of a pair of patterned cads' socks was overkill of the most otiose kind.

I exclude from my prejudice all those that might loosely be called cultural moustaches: moustaches that are the products of culture or nationality. Greek moustaches merely mean that the wearer is no mere dilettante Greek: it says that ouzo flows through his veins. Australian moustaches are a highly necessary piece of macho colonial chest-beating: it would be unfair to penalize Australians for their moustaches. Bruce Grobbelaar's moustache tells us clearly enough that he is a wild colonial boy from the bush.

It is English moustaches against which I am prejudiced, or perhaps I mean British moustaches, because Graeme Souness is one of the world's most determined moustache-wearers. Souness is a man of much force in many ways: but perhaps his moustache is his Achilles' heel. The nature of the moustache-wearer is, in my prejudiced mind, summed up for all time by Archie Gemmill's immortal remark on Souness: "If he was a chocolate drop, he'd eat himself."

Graham Gooch's moustache is one of the most ambiguous moustaches in sport. In his youth it was a cavalier's moustache, the dashing facial adornment of a carefree chancer. As Gooch has grown older, and more careworn, more resentful of the years of potential greatness lost by his adventuring in South Africa, so his moustache has changed character.

The shape has remained exactly the same, but where the moustache once expressed his natural jauntiness, its drooping, carefully trimmed strands now serve to emphasize Gooch's prevailing aura of self-absorption and gloom. A strange man is Gooch, and a man with a strange and unfathomable moustache.

Perhaps the most famous moustache in sport is Ian Botham's. It is my sincere belief that Botham was 10 times the player he later became when he wore a full beard. Headingley 1981 gave us Botham as England's bearded lion.

It was when he had replaced the beard with his little moustache that all the most ridiculous events of his life followed. He has become more given to mere cameo innings, a bowler given to strange fits of petulance, and his life has been characterized by occasional bursts of bizarre behaviour.

Now I would not be silly enough to say that the replacement of beard with moustache forced him into such a change of nature. But I would say that the moustache is symptomatic of a deeper malaise. When he grew his moustache, he chose to emphasize all those parts of himself that are best represented by a moustache.

He has appeared more vain, more cocky, far more of a gang leader than before. He has become more conscious of his own stardom. He has become less laddish and less easily likeable to the millions who watch him from afar: he has become more a figure of self-importance and self-admiration. He required no patterned socks to complete the appearance of caddishness. The sooner he grows his beard back, the better it will be for English cricket.

When a British person grows a moustache, is is a sign that there is something profoundly wrong within.

Indeed, a moustached person probably possesses prejudices every bit as ludicrous as the one to which I have just given vent. Never trust a sportsman with a moustache: abide by that simple rule and you cannot go far wrong.


Grobbelaar: colonial boy

FOOTBALL

FA says ex-players have something to offer as referees

By Clive White

The Football Association yesterday acknowledged the need to recruit former professional players as referees at the highest level, but it is unlikely to allow them a short cut to the top.

Many players are deterred from becoming referees when they retire because of the time it takes to graduate to a standard whereby they could referee a Football League match. On average it takes 12 years, by which time most players would have virtually reached the age of 48, the League's retirement age for referees.

The FA accepts the need to accelerate the learning process, but is not prepared to give former players any priority when it comes to selection. "There are many other referees in the pipeline and they would not take kindly to other people jumping the queue," Colin Downey, the FA's referee officer, said yesterday.

But Downey said that the FA's referees' committee, which met yesterday, were of the opinion that former players, with their intimate knowledge of the game, did "have something to offer". The committee were discussing a document on the subject put forward by the Professional Footballers' Association and will be making recommendations to the FA Council's meeting on January 15.

Downey said that the committee accepted that players possessed certain knowledge useful to the art of refereeing, but that others might possess managerial skills which "balanced the equation".

He saw no reason why someone starting from scratch should not become a League referee within six years, although he conceded that the quickest rarely did it in less than nine. The rate of promotion in the early years, Downey admitted, depended upon the willingness of county associations to promote obvious high flyers quickly, and doubtless this is something that the FA will recommend to the associations in due course.

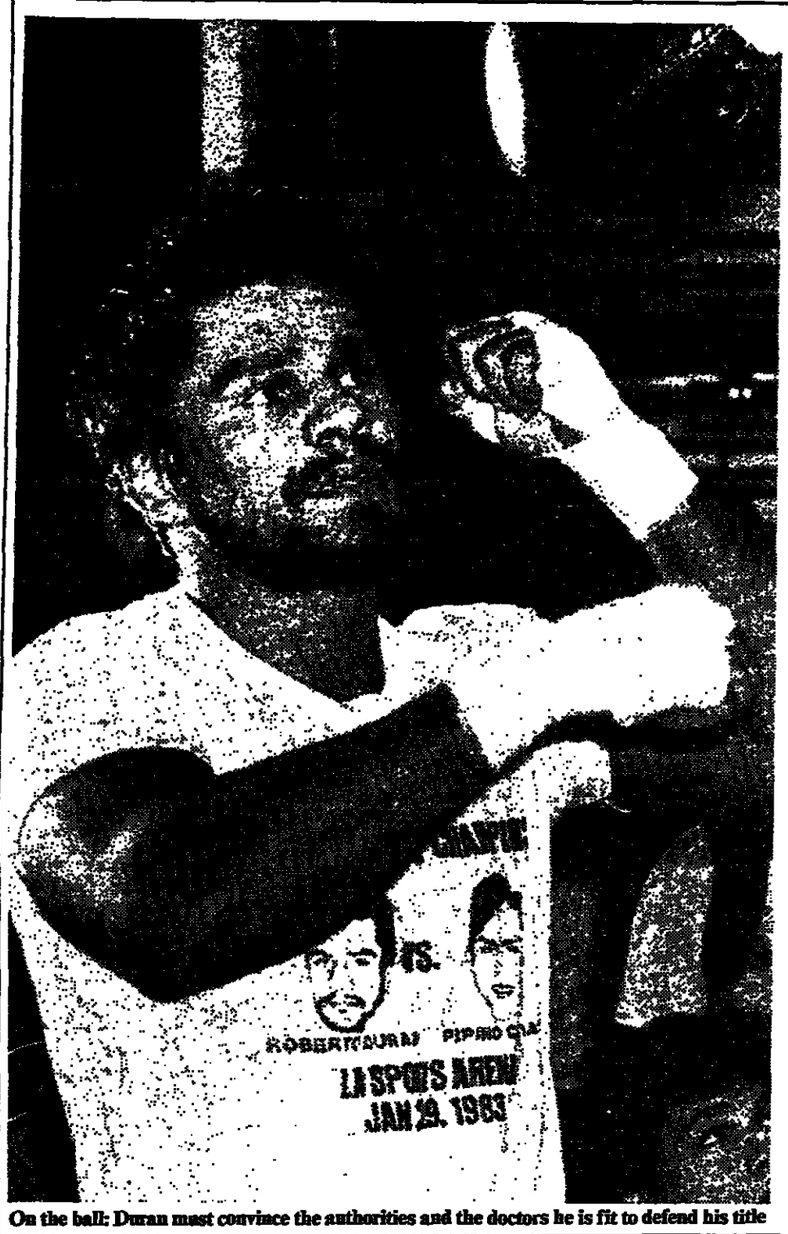
"People gain promotion quickly in business so why not football?" Downey said. "They must demonstrate their ability, though. Anyone who takes up refereeing will appreciate the need for an apprenticeship," he said.

Only one former League player has graduated to League referee status — Bob Matthewson, of Bolton Wanderers.

BOXING: OFFICIAL AND DOCTOR WANT EMACIATED PANAMANIAN CHAMPION TO STAND DOWN

Benn's title tilt in doubt as board objects to Duran

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent



On the ball: Duran must convince the authorities and the doctors he is fit to defend his title

The multi-million dollar bout between Nigel Benn and Roberto Duran, the World Boxing Council middleweight champion, which Barry Hearn plans to put on in London in the summer was thrown into doubt yesterday after John Morris, secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control, said he would like to see Duran stripped of his title.

Even if the Panamanian, aged 38, managed to hold on to his title, it is unlikely that he would pass the stringent medical examination which the board's senior medical officer, Dr Adrian Whiteson, would insist on.

Morris said that Duran's title should be declared vacant. "It is something the WBC will have to think seriously about," Morris said. "I don't want to do a British fighter out of a title fight but it is a point I've made to Jose Suleiman [the president of the WBC]."

According to Morris, since Duran boxed inside the middleweight limit when losing to Sugar Ray Leonard recently, he should be stripped of his title.

Whiteson was even harder on Duran. He was horrified at the emaciated state of the Panamanian after losing 32lb to make 158lb. To allow Duran to box in Britain he would have to convice Whiteson that at no stage was he more than 7lb above the 160lb middleweight limit.

"I would want to know that he had not reduced on diuretics. I would want to see a weight card from now on," Whiteson said. "Besides the usual tests, he would have to have a psychological assessment as well. We did not allow Ali to box when he wanted to fight John L. Gardner and I don't want any more Alis in the shape of Duran or any other boxer."

Morris said that Frank Bruno, too, would have to prove that he is fit to meet Mike Tyson a second time. "I hope no one is going to say to us 'One warm-up fight against someone in the top 10 and then Tyson'," Morris said. "I would be much happier if he boxed someone in the top 10 before Tyson."

The board has decided that Gary Mason must defend his British heavyweight title against Derek Williams, of Battersea, the European and Commonwealth champion. All three titles will be at stake. Mason will have to think twice about this bout as Williams is a dangerous opponent and a defeat could mean him losing his world ranking and a chance to meet Tyson.

Brazil face weakened Dutch side

Amsterdam (Reuter) — The Dutch team which takes on Brazil in Rotterdam today will have an unfamiliar look as injuries and club calls have ripped the heart out of the side which won the 1988 European championship and topped its World Cup qualifying group.

The Dutch, hard hit by the continued absence of the inspirational captain, Ruud Gullit, are without Ronald Koeman, of Barcelona, while Gullit's AC Milan colleagues, Frank Rijkaard and Marco van Basten may play only half a game each.

A club commitment also rules out the four from Mechelen, John Bosman, Erwin Koeman, Graeme Rutjes and Wim Hofkens, leaving the coach, Thijs Libregts, to field a second string line-up against the South American champions.

Brazil, whose squad is based largely on their European exiles, have added Vasco da Gama, the forward, Bebeto, and the Sao Paulo defender, Ricardo Rocha. The Brazilian coach, Sebastiao Lazaroni, may pair Bebeto with Careca, of Napoli, in attack, putting the PSV Eindhoven forward, Romario, on the substitutes' bench. Libregts would welcome such problems.

With Barcelona insisting that Koeman take a week off from football he is hoping that van Basten and Rijkaard report fit on Tuesday. The pair played for AC Milan as they won the world club championship after extra time in Tokyo on Sunday and the Italian club has advised them not to play against Brazil.

Libregts has suggested he will compromise by asking the pair to play 45 minutes each. He has added two uncapped 22-year-olds, the midfield player, Martin Laamers of Vitesse and Frank Berghuis of Volendam to his squad, which now contains five players yet to play at full international level.

NETHERLANDS (from): H van Breukelen, J Hiele; D Blind, A van Tiggelen, F Rijkaard, B van Aerle, E Sturing; A Winter, J Wouters, M Laamers, R Reekers; F Berghuis, J van't Schip, J van Loen, M van Basten, B Lauheru, W Kieft, J Ellerman.

BRAZIL (from): Taffarel, Ze Carlos; Jorginho, Ricardo Rocha, Aldair, Mozer, Julio Cesar, Branco, Dida; Alemao, Dunga, Silas, Valdo, Geovani; Muller, Careca, Bebeto, Romario.

McHale and Bird to answer charges

Ray McHale, the Scarborough manager, and John Bird, his York City counterpart, will face an FA disciplinary commission in Manchester on January 8 to answer a charge of bringing the game into disrepute.

McHale sent off after a flare-up with Bird during the north Yorkshire clubs' fourth division derby at Scarborough on November 24. York won the match 3-1 to inflict Scarborough's eighth successive defeat.

Harry Redknapp, the Bournemouth manager, has requested a personal hearing at the Football Association after being charged with bringing the game into disrepute.

Redknapp was reported to the FA by the referee, Ian Hemley, for remarks he is alleged to have made at half-time during Bournemouth's 3-2 win at Swindon Town in a second division match on December 5.

Bournemouth have ruled out an offer for the Barnet forward, Andrew Clarke, who has been linked with Arsenal for £200,000.

● Steve Bull, Wolverhampton Wanderers' England forward, has been ordered to take a break from training for 48 hours to "recharge his batteries" to help rediscover his goal touch. Bull has not scored in any of the past six games, which is his worst run since he moved to Molineux from West Bromwich Albion three years ago.

The Wolves' manager, Graham Turner, feels that the player's first full appearance for England against Yugoslavia last week took a lot out of him, coming so soon after he had missed three games through suspension.

● Wayne Heseltine, aged 20, the Manchester United reserve defender, signed for Oldham Athletic, the second division club, yesterday for £40,000.

● Nicky Law, the Notts County defender, has turned down the opportunity of a permanent move to Scarborough because he does not wish to drop into the fourth division. Law, aged 28, is in the second month of a loan period with the Yorkshire club.

● Dick Pratley, the Shrewsbury captain, has been ruled out for the rest of the season following further surgery on a knee injury which kept him sidelined for five months last season.

AC DELCO CUP: Fourth round draw: Chesham United v St Albans City or Aylesbury United; Wokingham Town v Clarkston Athletic; Uxbridge v Aveley or Hendon; Kingsbury Town v Barking or Woking. *Matches to be played week commencing January 29.*

Charlton directors back supporters' campaign

Charlton Athletic hopes that Greenwich Council will soon approve their plans for redevelopment of the Valley next month. However, after a meeting with council officials on Monday night, the Charlton board of directors is urging supporters to keep up their campaign to win full council backing for a return to the Valley after four years at Selhurst Park.

A club spokesman said the council representatives had agreed to look at the entire Valley scheme, including a banqueting suite and commercial office, in the next few weeks.

"A constructive discussion took place. There will now be close co-operation between the club and the council and it is hoped that a special meeting will be held and a decision made on the club's application before the end of January. Charlton feel that progess has been made and are very appreciative of the continuing support from their supporters.

"The next few weeks of discussion are critical for the planning application to succeed and it is, therefore, imperative for supporters to continue their efforts on behalf of the club," the spokesman said.

The Supporters' Club has threatened to put up candidates in next May's council elections unless the council approves the Valley plans.

ROWING

Henley entry rules changed

By a Special Correspondent

The Henley Stewards, meeting in London yesterday, radically changed the rules of entry for various events at the Royal Regatta in an effort to make the country's leading oarsmen more ambitious in their attitude towards the competition.

The management committee expressed its concern at "the tendency for oarsmen of high ability to prefer to try to win the lesser events for eight and fours at Henley rather than showing the ambition and confidence to try and win at a higher level".

In 1984, the stewards changed the entry regulations for the Ladies' Challenge Plate and the Thames Challenge Cup in the hope that the faster crews would enter the Ladies' and the slower would race the Thames.

What happened was that crews, with an eye to a Thames entry, restricted their pre-Henley racing, an indication of the desire for a Henley medal but not a beneficial development for domestic rowing. Similar developments have been apparent in the Wyfold Challenge Cup and Britannia Challenge Cup, making it difficult for club class crews to succeed.

As a result the stewards decided yesterday that the rules for the Ladies' and the Thames would revert to the pre-1984 qualifications, the Ladies' being restricted to student crews, composites included, and the Thames, Wyfold and Britannia confined to club or student crews, but in these cases with composites debarred.

Further important innovations are the exclusion of past and present senior internationals from the Thames, Wyfold, and Britannia and the introduction of the Henley Prize, for crews from single colleges or schools from both home and abroad. The specific top-school event, the Princess Elizabeth Cup, remains unchanged, but the Special Race for Schools looks likely to disappear.

Since the stewards intend to accept 48 entries in the Thames, the chance of an ordinary club crew competing at Henley is better than ever before, but the same cannot be said for scullers since the maximum entry for the Diamond Challenge Sculls is reduced from 24 to 16.

The qualifications for the Grand Challenge Cup and the Stewards and Prince Philip Challenge Cup remain unchanged, but, with the changes in the lower event rules, these leading events should receive more entries. No consideration was given to the re-introduction of events for women.

The management committee announced that the income and expenditure for the Royal Regatta topped the £1 million mark in 1989. The profit of £325,000 was only marginally below that of 1988 in spite of the extra expenses of the sesquicentenary celebrations.

Michael Johnston, a leading figure in the Irish rowing scene since 1966, was elected as a steward and the stewards also intend to plant a row of trees in memory of Thomi Keller, the steward and FISA President, who died in September.

Eastwood opts out of WBA title bout

By George Ace

B. J. Eastwood is unlikely to be involved in Mike McCallum's defence of his World Boxing Association middleweight title against Steve Collins, the Irish exile now living in Boston, at the 4,000-seater Point Depot in Dublin's Docklands on February 3 — the same date as the Ireland v Scotland rugby international at Lansdowne Road.

Eastwood said yesterday: "I am not trying to be uncooperative and fully appreciate Bob Arum's offer of a share in the promotion if I put the undercard together for him. But I have a King's Hall promotion featuring Dave McAuley's second defence of his International Boxing Federation flyweight title just one week before — January 27 — and that will demand my full attention.

"It is an unfortunate situation that the King's Hall promotion and McAuley's title defence must be my priority. I will be explaining the situation later this week to Arum."

If that proves to be the case, one can discount reports that Sam Storey, Belfast's British super middleweight champion, will meet the American, Robbie Simms, in a chief supporting contest on the Dublin promotion. Storey confirmed yesterday that no approach had been made, so far, to his manager or to himself about a possible match with Simms.

"I read that report myself a few weeks ago but that is all I know about it," said Storey. "If Mr Eastwood wants me in a supporting role to McAuley's world title defence, it is in the King's Hall I'll be boxing and not in Dublin."

McAuley's most likely opponent is the former Commonwealth champion, Richard Clarke, from Jamaica.

Lewis stays unbeaten as referee calls halt

The British heavyweight, Lennox Lewis, stopped the American, Greg Gorrell, in the fifth round in his home town of Kitchener, Ontario, last night. Unbeaten Lewis, who fights out of London, where he was raised before moving to Canada, had the American down in the first and the referee stepped in to save Gorrell four rounds later.

An Olympic gold medal winner, Lewis is due to meet Noel Quarless, of Liverpool, at Bethnal Green on January 31.

Carlos Antunes, of Brazil, will be the opponent of the world light middleweight champion, John Mugabi, of Uganda, in a non-title contest at the Albert Hall on January 10.

Antunes is his country's middleweight title holder and has won 15 of his 17 contests. The two defeats were against the world light-heavyweight champion, Jeff Harding, of Australia, in December last year, and to the highly ranked French supermiddleweight, Chris Tiozzo, last month.

The bout is the chief support to the contest between the British welterweight champion, Kirkland Laing, and Luis Santana, of the Dominican Republic.

ATHLETICS

Solly back to earth and racing fit

By David Powell

Jon Solly, the Commonwealth 10,000 metres champion who was prevented by injury from being adequately fit to contest a place in the England team for Auckland, will return from altitude training in Kenya to run in the General Portfolio cross country meeting at Durham on Saturday week.

Solly, who suffered a stress fracture of the foot at the 1987 world championships, is only now returning to peak racing form and will have the chance to show how far he has progressed in a formidable line-up.

While Steve Cram and Peter Elliott contest the 2,000 metres General Portfolio Challenge, Solly will compete over eight kilometres against three potential England medal-winners in Auckland — Jack Buckner, Tim Hutchings and Mark Rowland. Max Coleby, the event director, said yesterday that Solly was "absolutely flying and hopes to demonstrate that he is back to his best".

Although Solly ran in the Commonwealth Games trial, he was unable to last the pace, but, in finishing second, only two seconds behind, to Paul Davies-Hale in the Birmingham Vax 10 kilometre race in September, he had three good Kenyans behind him. Solly's performance was made to look even better when Davies-Hale went on to win the Chicago marathon.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

B and Q SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Motherwell v Hibernian. First division: Postponed: Alloa v Forfar Athletic; Albion Rovers v Hamilton Academical. Second division: Postponed: East Stirlingshire v Brechin City; Stenhousemuir v Berwick Rangers.

LEYLAND DAF CUP: Preliminary round replay: Postponed: Mansfield v Leyton Orient.

OVERDRIVE PAPERS COMBINATION: Millwall 1, Ipswich Town 0; Luton Town 1, Tottenham Hotspur 0. Postponed: Chelsea v Reading.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Burnley v Stoke; Rotherham v Bolton.

Monday's results

FA CUP: Second round, second replay: Burnley 5, Scunthorpe 0.

MPS LOANS LEAGUE: Cup: Second round: Curzon Ashton 3, Emley 4. Premier division: Horwich 1, Wilton 0.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Newcastle 2, Leicester 0.

BERKSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE: Senior Cup: First round: Windsor and Eton 2, Wokingham 0.

SOUTH-WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Yeovil 0, Exeter City 1

MITRE UNDER-19 TROPHY: Northants 1, Bedfordshire 0.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): New Orleans Saints 30, Philadelphia Eagles 20.

CYCLING

BORDEAUX: Six-day race: Fourth night leaders: 1, G Duclos-Lassalle (Fr) and E Cavalle (Sp), 127pts; 2, D Wyder and B Holzmeyer (Switz), 88; 3, L Blondin (Fr) and P Bincoletto (It), at one lap, 140; 4, U Bohm and P Fallenstein (WG), 118; 5, P Tarantini (Fr) and H Markl (Switz), 92; 6, M Mallitor (Fr) and W Diehl (WG), 69.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Toronto Maple Leafs 6, St Louis Blues 3.

MOSCOW: Izvestia Cup: Finland 9, West Germany 2; Soviet Union 8, Sweden 1.

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCH: Wasgill 0, Ampleforth 40.

TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: British Women Tennis Association's Clubhouse tournament: Second round: J Salmon (Sussex) bt J Harper (Sussex), 6-2, 6-3; E Bond (Gloucs) bt M Bishop (Middx), 7-6, 6-3; J Pullin (Sussex) bt L Harley (Devon), 6-1, 6-3; C Billingham (Oxon) bt H Crook (Essex), 6-3, 6-0; K Hand (Berks) bt J Fox (Bucks), 2-1 retired; S Lodgmore (S Wales) bt S Bach (Middx), 6-1, 6-0; J Caplen (Herts) bt J Bragasandas (Middx), 6-3, 6-3; K Rickett (Warwicks) bt C Herbert (Herts), 6-4, 6-4.

ALFRETON: LTA national winter series: Men, second section: R Smart bt S Cooke, 6-2, 6-4; K Grimley bt D King, 6-0, 6-0.

HOCKEY

Weakened challenge

St Albans, the national champions, and East Grinstead represent England's challenge in the Gleneagles international indoor tournament at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, on January 13 and 14 (Sydney Friskin writes).

This is the eleventh tournament of the series in which the German club, An Der Alster, from Hamburg, will defend the title they won last year when they defeated Antipodeans.

The Australians have not joined the overseas teams this year and their place has been taken by the Spanish club, El Cid, with the Buccaneers, from The Netherlands, renewing their challenge. Three Scottish clubs, Menzieshill, from Dundee, Murray International Metals and Western Indespension, all former winners, make up the eight teams in the competition.

Reward for knowledge

The Times on Saturday presents the giant-size Christmas sports crossword to test your sporting knowledge and give you a choice of first prize — either a day out for two at the Seagram Grand National at Aintree, or the Littlewoods Cup football final at Wembley, or the Coral Golden Hurdle final at the Cheltenham National Hunt Festival, *plus* books galore for the runners-up.

The Times Jumbo Crossword has become one of the sporting traditions of Christmas — and it will keep you puzzling through the festive period.

Dear Newsagent, please deliver/save me a copy of The Times
WEEKDAYS ☐ SATURDAY ☐
NAME
ADDRESS

THE TIMES First published 1785

FA Cup expulsion warning as clubs are fined £20,000

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Before fining West Ham United and Wimbledon £20,000 each yesterday, the Football Association sounded an even more severe warning to the competitors in the FA Cup. Any club found guilty of "serious" misbehaviour during or after the third round on January 6 is liable to be thrown out of this season's tournament.

A letter signed by Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, has been sent to all the participants in the third round. "You are on notice," it reads, "that, in addition to the specific sanctions mentioned in the rules, commissions can deal with misconduct in such manner as they may think fit. Accordingly, the Football Association reserves the right to expel clubs from the competition."

Although the governing body would be reluctant to impose the ultimate punishment, a clear message is added at the end of the letter, which should be received by the relevant clubs today. "The executive committee feels strongly that serious incidents of misconduct can clearly be avoided if boards of directors give out unequivocal directions to club personnel and exercise a proper degree of control."

Kelly confirmed that stronger measures were also likely to be taken against sides involved in unruly disturbances during League fixtures. "We will incorporate the option to deduct championship points from the start of next season", he said, "but we are not inhibited now from taking firm action in the FA Cup this season."

Although they were charged with offences committed in the Littlewoods Cup, West Ham and Wimbledon were not threatened with expulsion. Found guilty of misconduct and of bringing the game into disrepute during the fourth-round tie at Upton Park on November 22, they received the same financial penalty as Arsenal in last month's unprecedented case. Norwich City, considered more responsible for the widespread brawl at Highbury, were fined £50,000.

Kelly explained the apparent leniency. The committee took into consideration West Ham's previous exemplary disciplinary record and the evidence that internal action had already been taken against players who contributed to the ugly skirmishes. He would not stipulate whether they were Dicks, the captain who was sent off, and Allen, who was booked.

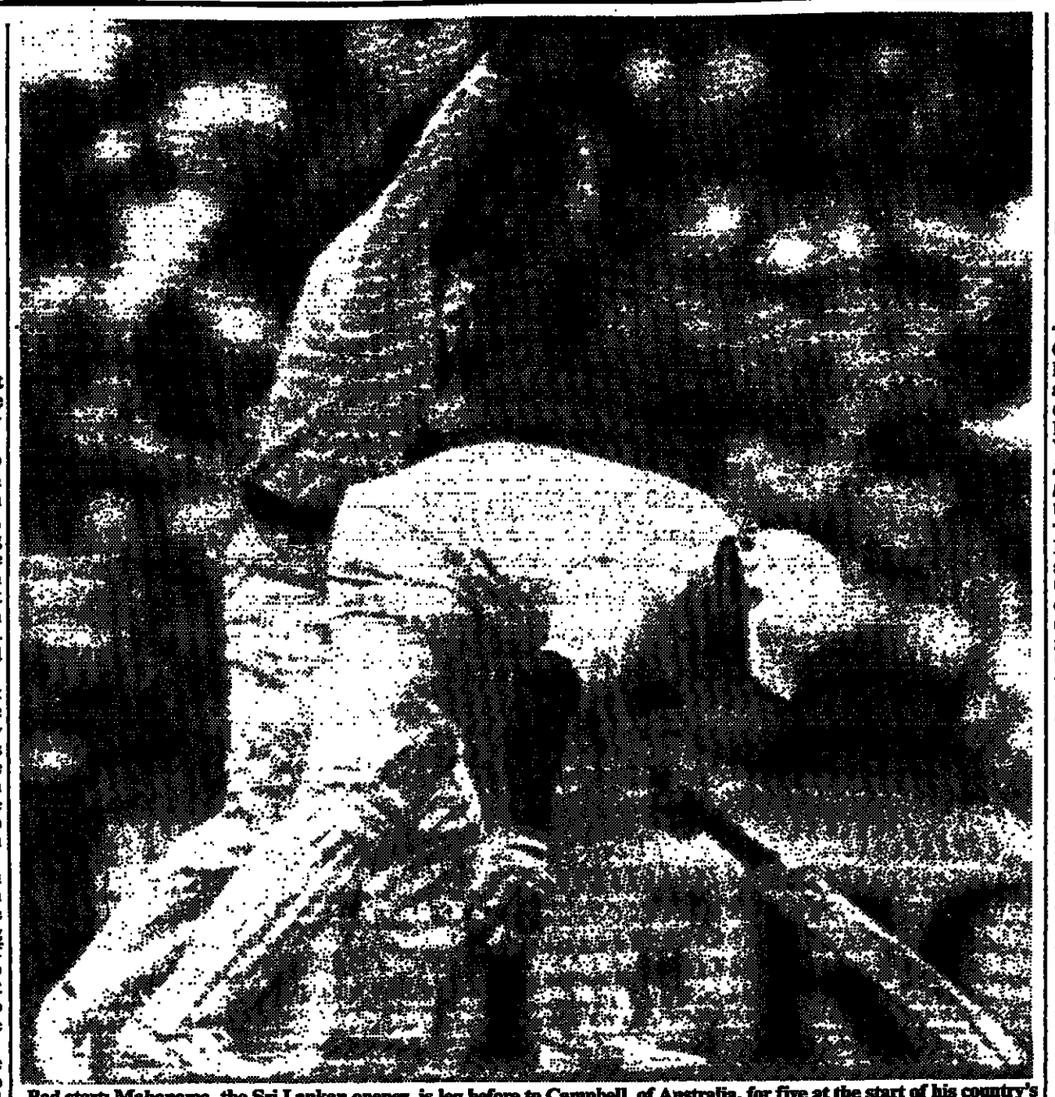
It was also accepted that Wimbledon, who stated that they intended to punish one of their miscreants, "have made efforts to improve their behaviour" over the last 18 months. Since they have been fined more than £25,000 for various offences over that period, they seem to have been treated particularly mercifully.

Kelly emphasized that no individual at Upton Park had been identified — either on video, by the match officials, or by the police — "commiting offences like those of the Norwich players". But, in rejecting suggestions that West Ham and Wimbledon had escaped lightly, he indicated that he was committed to pursuing a firm policy.

"We are trying to push back the tide of what has become regarded as acceptable," Kelly said. "We cannot allow teams to re-enact the Charge of The Light Brigade. It is not an edifying sight and we have reinforced our willingness to punish those who indulge in it."

Should clubs not learn from the examples which have been set over the last month, he could forsee managers being asked to explain the actions of their sides. Players could also be charged individually, but the FA would be reluctant to be seen to undermine the authority of the referee.

Kelly also revealed that the FA is preparing to spend up to £100,000 to ensure the good behaviour of the nation's supporters during next summer's World Cup finals. The bill is for "the use of English policemen" who are to travel to Italy to strengthen the security of the local forces.



Bad start: Mahanama, the Sri Lankan opener, is leg before to Campbell, of Australia, for five at the start of his country's long haul towards a target of 522 in the second Test match at Hobart yesterday. Report, page 36

Marsh is back on the map

By Simon Wilde

There can be little doubt which is at present the world's favourite ground for batsmen. Followers of the game at Perth, Western Australia have been treated this season to lengthy solo performances from Graeme Wood (nearly 8½ hours), Greg Shipperd (nearly 12 hours) and Mark Greatbatch (over 14½ hours in a match), but none of this trio scored even half as fast as Geoff Marsh did during a virtuoso 10½-hour display at the weekend.

Marsh's innings of 355 not out, for the state against South Australia, represented a remarkable response to a decline in his fortunes. He had struggled for form all season, and had not batted since breaking a toe in practice over three weeks earlier. Meanwhile, during his enforced absence from Australia's Test side, Moody, his replacement, had begun to make a mark. Doubts were growing about Marsh's international future.

Despite all this, Marsh batted without serious error until he gave a chance at 244 (he gave another at 330) and went on to the highest innings ever played for Western Australia. The previous record of 262 belonged to Mike Veletta, his opening partner. No Australian, not even Bradman, can match the 224 runs Marsh accrued in boundary strokes. He hit two sixes and 53 fours.

Although Veletta lost one record, he acquired another. He scored 150 and with Marsh shared a first-wicket partnership of 431, the highest in Sheffield Shield history. They batted throughout the first day, as Marsh and Mark Taylor did against England at Trent Bridge four months ago, which was the last time Marsh reached a first-class fifty.

Western Australia (565 for three declared) took their first Shield points of the season but were unable to break the sequence of stalemates at Perth. South Australia escaped with a draw through centuries from Paul Nobes, his first, and Michael Bevan, aged 19, who was making his first-class debut. During the match, Darren Berry's wicket-keeping world record of runs scored without conceding a bye ended at 2,447.

In New Zealand, where the season has begun earlier than normal to accommodate two extra rounds of matches in the Shell Trophy, Auckland, the holders, began with an innings victory in two days over Central Districts last week. The pitch at Eden Park proved to be neither Perth nor paradise for batting as Central Districts, despite the presence of both Greatbatch and Martin Crowe, were dismissed for just 111 and 145.

Willie Watson, the fast bowler, who took two first-class wickets for 355 runs on the recent tour of Australia, claimed career-best figures of seven for 60 in the second innings.

Roger Twose, the Warwickshire player, scored 49 on his debut for Northern Districts at Wellington.

END COLUMN

Athletes need a different outlook

Colin Jackson and Roger Black were among the top athletes who complained recently that medical support in Britain was inadequate. Here Vivian Grisogono, author of *Sports Injuries, a self-help guide* and a chartered physiotherapist, takes issue.

It is a shame that some top athletes seem unable to find the medical support they require in Britain, but one has to question why they do not recognize the excellent services available to them and why they seem unwilling to take the wealth of advice on offer.

Where once athletes might have invoked injuries as an excuse for performing when they did not wish to, nowadays they are more likely to be real than fictitious. Modern athletes may be training harder than the stars of yesteryear, but it seems odd logic to assume that they should do this accepting that they must get injured as a by-product of their workouts.

We know more than ever about athletes' common injuries. British sports medicine has developed from a controversial political bugbear into a recognized area of expertise, and all its related disciplines have developed apace in the last 20 years. We also know more about injury prevention, but the sad fact is that coaches and athletes seem to take little advantage.

First full-time sports clinic

We know that running in one direction on the track can produce hip and pelvic injuries through leaning into the bends; that training on hard or artificial surfaces all the time can produce excessive leg jarring; that overload injuries, such as stress fractures, are directly produced by over-intensive training involving running, hopping and bounding; and that modern shoe backs can irritate the Achilles tendons.

Few athletes vary their track training by running in either direction, or vary their running surface to include grass or soft surfaces. Training programmes tend to concentrate on running work, without a phased progression, and neglect essential stretching exercises and body conditioning gym work.

Too few athletes warm down and do stretching exercises at the end of racing or training. Pathetically few, especially at top level, correct their shoe backs, despite the high incidence of Achilles tendon soreness and other shoe-related problems.

Some years after my medical officer and I established the first full-time sports clinic at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre in 1978, I was dismayed to read that the national director of coaching, Frank Dick, was criticizing the lack of sports injury treatment facilities in Britain. Yet he had not approached us to find out that we had a complete and excellent medical and paramedical service for injured sportspeople.

All services were free of charge

All of these services were provided free of charge to anyone legitimately using the Crystal Palace facilities.

Too many athletes in my experience as a former British team physiotherapist seem to expect massage as their due, yet are not prepared to do basic stretching exercises to help the process.

At Crystal Palace, my first task was to impose discipline on those athletes who thought that the role of the physiotherapist was to provide ultrasound on demand.

Injury prevention was always my main objective, but I found very few athletics coaches willing to listen to and learn from our experiences of injury causation.

Lack of loyalty from their athletes, linked with 'poaching' by other coaches, was one major problem athletics coaches faced. It often made them unwilling to accept valid and objective advice from other people, because they feared a loss of their authority.

An important step forward would be to involve chartered physiotherapists more closely within the training framework. Physiotherapists not only treat injuries, they can provide valuable advice on background training for improved efficiency and injury prevention.

Incorporating the physiotherapist's suggestions might be a decisive step away from the trend of producing highly tuned, but lame, potential and actual athletics stars.

Manchester United to defer question of share flotation

By Ian Ross

Martin Edwards, the Manchester United chairman, announced last night that a decision as to whether or not the club will be floated on the stock market had been shelved for at least three months.

The question of a possible share flotation was discussed in some depth at United's monthly board meeting at Old Trafford but, as was expected, Edwards insisted on the postponement of any firm decision in a bid to help stabilize a club which has become deeply divided at executive level since the collapse of the proposed takeover by Michael Knighton two months ago.

After emerging from the four-hour meeting, Edwards said that discussions had exhaustive, but good natured.

"There has been a long board agenda but we have still been able to discuss the share question in a frank and full manner. I have told my board members that I will not be rushed and that I will come to a decision towards the end of the season. In the mean time, we shall all be concentrating our efforts on the running of this football club," he said.

As the largest shareholder, Edwards has the necessary voting power to dictate exactly when and how he disposes of his 52 per cent controlling interest.

Although he did indicate at the club's recent annual general meeting that he was anxious to sever his connections with Manchester United, Edwards is aware of the rifts which have been created within his own boardroom since the collapse of the Knighton deal and the subsequent need for a period of consolidation, both on and off the field.

A very high percentage of the United board are now believed to back the idea of a public flotation of shares, an idea which was suggested at the weekend by Amer Midani who, along with a fellow director, Nigel Burrows, had been negotiating with Edwards to purchase the club.

Midani's plans to buy Edwards's 505,000 shares fell through a fortnight ago after the United chairman increased his asking price from £20 to £30 per share.

Sir Matt Busby, the United president and a former manager, has added his considerable influence to the lobby for a share issue.

"I agree with people who believe that we would get stability and a better guarantee for the well-being of Manchester United if it were to pass into the control of a number of responsible shareholders," he said.

"Recent events have demonstrated the problems that can arise from private ownership when the time comes for the club to be sold," he added.

More football, page 37

Salmon closer to Christmas final

Julie Salmon, a British Wightman Cup international, won a keen all-Sussex clash with Jane Harper to reach the last eight of the British Women's Tennis Association Christmas tournament at Queen's Club, London, yesterday.

Salmon, the British No. 6, from Brighton, won 6-2, 6-3 and will meet Emily Bond, of Gloucester, for a place in the semi-finals.

Bond had to negotiate a particularly difficult opening set before beating Mandy Bishop, of Middlesex, 7-6, 6-3.

A final on Thursday between Salmon, the No. 2 seed, and Sarah Loosemore, the top-seeded Welsh player, looked increasingly likely as Loosemore, a former national champion, swept aside the slender challenge of Susie Bach, aged 16, in 46 minutes. Loosemore, the British No. 5, aged 18, won 6-1, 6-0.

Bach, of Hampstead, was satisfied to have won the second game. Suffering from a heavy cold, she had points to win three other games but said afterwards: "Sarah hit the ball so hard there was simply nothing I could do about it."

The Middlesex schoolgirl could merely smile her way through the ordeal.

Olympia boosted by course design

By Jenny MacArthur

Higher prize-money and imaginative course building contributed to the resounding success of this year's Olympia show jumping championships, which ended on Monday night in dramatic style when the West German, Franke Sloothaak, on Optibeurs Walzerkoenig, won the Crosse & Blackwell grand prix for the second year in succession.

The pair defeated the favourite, John Whitaker and Next Milton — who surprisingly had no win during the week. Nevertheless, Whitaker's £6,000 second prize in the grand prix together with £3,300 for finishing third in the World Cup qualifier, was good enough to bring his prize-winnings for the year with Next Milton to £250,000 — a record for a British show jumper.

Sloothaak, a member of the 1988 Olympic gold medal winning team, had been the most vociferous in his complaints about the courses and prize-money last year — announcing that he would not return unless both improved. Lured back by a 62 per cent increase in the prize fund he ironically ended this week's show as its leading money-winner. Three wins during the week earned him £13,490

He had no complaint either about the courses. Raymond Brooks-Ward, the organizer, had brought in Paul Duffey from Ireland to design the courses alongside Alan Ball. Duffey was quick to make his mark. Putting the emphasis on making the horses jump, rather than relying on awkward distances between the fences, he produced classic jump-offs for the two leading competitions of the week, Saturday's Volvo world cup qualifier, won by the Austrian, Thomas Fruhmann on Grandeur, and Monday night's grand prix.

The enormous grand prix course prompted several withdrawals and retirments, but few could argue with a course which got seven of Europe's leading horses, headed by Milton and Walzerkoenig, to contest the jump-off. The final round produced vintage show jumping. Nick Skelton's opening clear round, on Burmah Grand Slam, looked good enough to win but once again, Duffey's course inspired bigger and faster jumping from successive horses.

RESULTS: Crosse & Blackwell grand prix: 1, Optibeurs Walzerkoenig (F Sloothaak), 0 faults in 33.45secs; 2, Next Milton (J Whitaker), 0 in 36.00; 3, Burmah Grand Slam (N Skelton), 0 in 37.41.

Mason put in corner by politics

The heavyweight showdown the British boxing public want to see was ordered today by the board of control. But the three-title bout between the British champion, Gary Mason, and European and Commonwealth holder, Derek Williams, may not take place because of boxing politics.

Mason, who has two notches on a Lonsdale Belt, has been given until March 31 to defend against Williams, whose two titles would also be at stake if the rival camps of Terry Lawless and Mike Barrett could agree terms.

The likelihood, however, is that the Mason would give up his title while preparing for a world title meeting with Mike Tyson in 1991.

Mason should have fought Williams earlier this season, but was pulled out by Lawless, who believed it would be a "backward step". Lawless took his decision because the fight lost much appeal following Williams's points defeat by Mark Wills in New York

Although Williams beat Hughroy Currie in 55 seconds earlier this month to win the EBU title, hardly anything has changed from Mason's point of view.

Mason has said he would like the contest, both to keep "ticking over" and to "win a Lonsdale belt outright".

Also attempting to win Lonsdale Belt is the Ulsterman, Sam Storey, who must defend his British super-middleweight title against James Cook, of Peckham.

The lightweight champion, Steve Boyle, who recently lost a European championship challenge, must put his title at stake against Peter Till, now a member of the Frank Warren stable.

Record profit

Hampshire County Cricket Club made a record profit of £63,972 on the last financial year ended October 31, with gate receipts totalling £95,400, a record. The county's profit for the previous year was £37,280.

MIM angry after being denied an invitation

MIM Livingston, who won the World Invitation Club Tournament at Crystal Palace last New Year, beating the mighty Russian Olympic gold medallists on the way, have not been invited to this year's event.

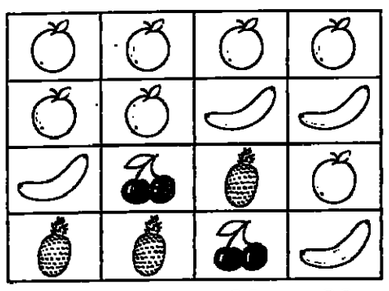
After withdrawing from the Carlsberg league due to the reduction of much of their sponsorship, MIM indicated to the organisers that they thought they would not be strong enough to defend their title.

But that was before they saw the calibre of this year's line-up, which consists of the English clubs, Bracknell, Brixton and Crystal Palace, an Israeli side, Maccabi Reshon Le Zion, a composite American team with five CBA players called the New York Lakers, the West German champions, Leverkusen and two teams from Scandinavia, Solna (Sweden) and Oslo.

"We're very disappointed — I was led to believe the tournament was going to be as strong as last year," the MIM coach, Ian Gordon, said. Gordon inspired the victory over the Soviet national side in last year's semi-finals and then over Leverkusen in the final. "Judging by this line-up we could hold our own against several of the teams," he said.

The MIM record this season bears him out. Unbeaten in the Scottish League, they reached the second round of the European Cup for the first time for five years and, after beating the Danish champions, Skovlunde, in the first round, put up a respectable performance against the holders, Split Yugoplastika.

COULD YOU SOLVE THIS PUZZLE AS FAST AS EINSTEIN?



HOW TO SOLVE THE PUZZLE

The different types of fruit have different values. Added together they give the totals shown. Work out the missing total for the left hand column.

If you can solve this puzzle, you could be eligible to join Mensa, the high IQ Society. Cut out the coupon for further details and a copy of the self-administered test. To: Mensa, FREEPOST, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR (no stamp required).

NAME

ADDRESS

POST CODE

Mensa

4.TIM.L.20

SPORT IN BRIEF

Games bid by Perth

Perth has become the third Australian city, behind Adelaide and Sydney, to bid to stage the 1998 Commonwealth Games.

The bid has been backed by the Western Australian government which has spent around £24 million over the past five years modernising sporting facilities in Perth.

Top seeds

Australia, the Olympic champions, have been made the top seeds for the women's hockey world cup, to be played in Sydney from May 2 to 13 next year. South Korea, beaten by Australia in the play-off for the gold medal in Seoul, are seeded second and the Netherlands third. England are seeded fourth.

Quick trip

The British international athlete, Dave Clarke, of Hercules Wimbledon, makes a quick dash to Paris at the weekend before returning home for Christmas. Clarke, aged 31, winner of the English cross country title three times, is competing in a 10 kilometres road race at Issy-les-Moulineaux.

Open to offers

Mark Walsham, Britain's most successful home-based professional cyclist for the past three seasons, is considering offers from three teams for 1990 and will make a decision by December 31. Walsham was left without sponsorship following the withdrawal of the Percy Bilton team from the sport.

Soviet visitors

The Soviet national speedway team are to visit Britain next year for a five-match tour. It will be the first visit by a Russian team since 1974. They will take on the National League sides Exeter, Poole, Ipswich, Peterborough and Newcastle in the week of March 23 to 29.

Nearing end

An independent inquiry into Steve Ovett's allegation that he was offered money to run in the AAA Championships last season is nearing its end. David Pickup, director general of the Sports Council, and Robert Reid QC, plan to present a draft report to the Amateur Athletic Association by Christmas.